

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

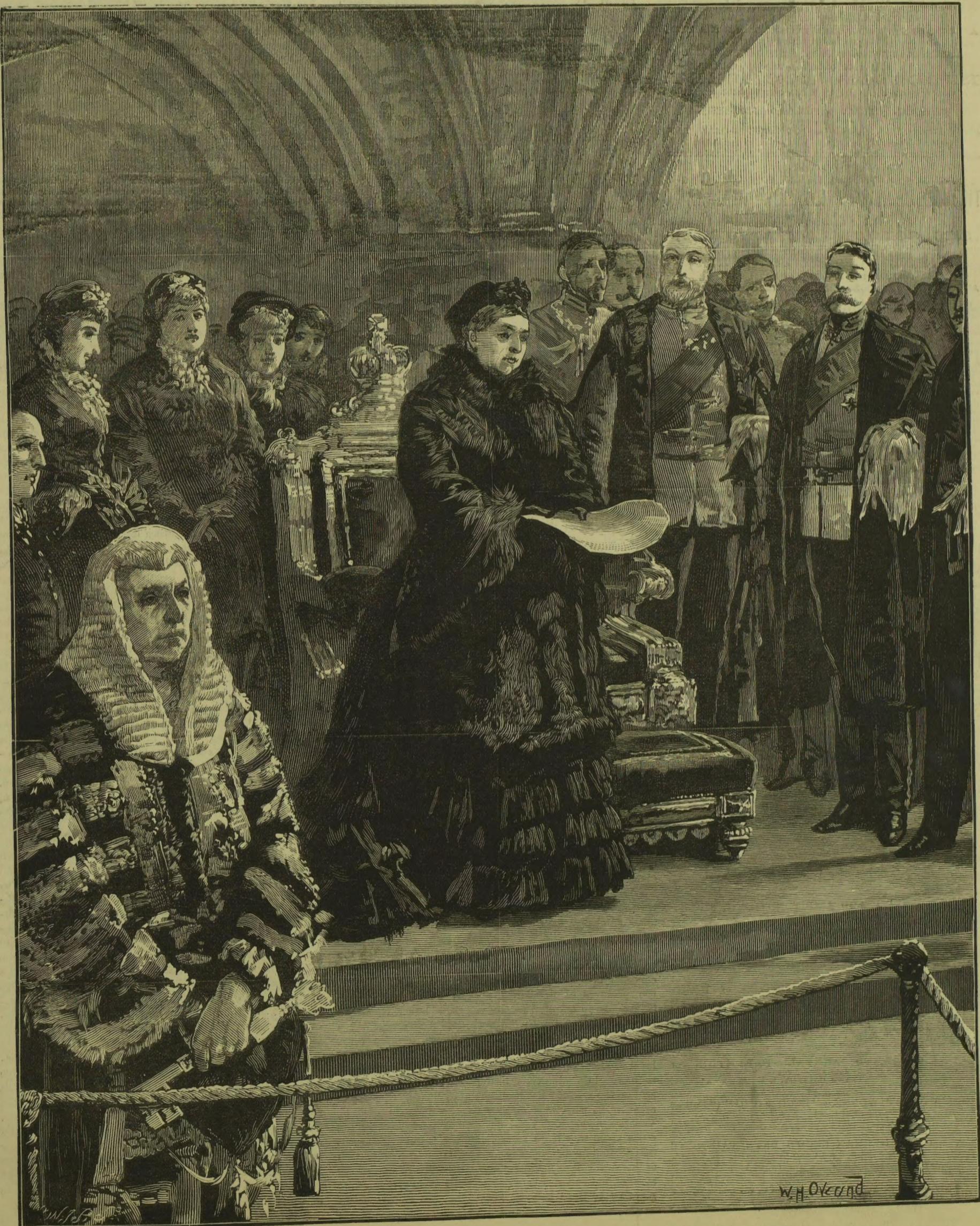
REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2277.—VOL. LXXXI.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1882.

WITH
TWO SUPPLEMENTS, SIXPENCE.
By Post, 6½d.

OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.



THE DAIS AT THE NORTH END OF THE CENTRAL HALL: THE QUEEN DECLARING THE COURTS OPEN.

BIRTH.

On the 28th ult., at Haughton Hall, Shropshire, the Lady Wilhelmina Brooke, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 5th inst., at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, Ernest Field, of Arterberry-road, Wimbledon, son of the late Mr. Benjamin Field, of Clapham-common, to Evelyn L., daughter of the late W. F. Daniell, M.D., Staff Surgeon-Major.

On the 2nd inst., at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, Mr. A. Field, of Leamington, to Margaret E., daughter of the Rev. J. T. Burt, Rector of Stoke Doyle, Oundle, Northamptonshire.

On the 6th inst., at Bishopswarmouth, Arthur, son of Mr. J. Laing, of Thornhill, Sunderland, to Jane A., daughter of the late Rev. John Scott-Moncrieff.

DEATHS.

On the 28th ult., at 22, Queen-street, Mayfair, the Lady Augusta S. Cadogan, aged 71.

At the Manse, Kirkcudl, N.B., on the 26th ult., the Rev. James Charles, D.D., aged 80 years. Friends will please accept this intimation.

** The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, is Five Shillings for each announcement.

NOW READY,

FATHER CHRISTMAS.

A CHRISTMAS NUMBER FOR THE YOUNG FOLK.

ETHEL'S DREAM.

A STORY BY MR. F. C. BURNAND, EDITOR OF "PUNCH."

EIGHTEEN ILLUSTRATIONS BY GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.

A BEAUTIFUL COLOURED PICTURE,

RUDDY AS A CHERRY.

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AND

SEVERAL OTHER COLOURED PICTURES.

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THEATRE MONTE CARLO,

from JAN. 15 to MARCH 15, 1883.

LYRICAL REPRESENTATIONS

(French).

LES NOCES DE FIGARO.

LE PARISIEN DE PLOERMEL,

FAUST,

VIOLETTA,

MIGNON,

GALATHEE,

LES NOCES DE JEANNETTE,

LA FILLE DU REGIMENT,

LE DOMINO NOIR,

LES DRAGONS DE VILLARS.

ARTISTS ENGAGED.

Madame VAN ZANDT.

Madame HEILBRONN.

Madame HAMAN.

Madame MANGALY.

Madame FAUVELIN.

Madame MARYSON.

Madame STUARD.

Monsieur MAUREL.

Monsieur TALAZAC.

Monsieur DUFURCHE.

Monsieur PLANCON.

LYCEUM.—MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING, EVERY EVENING, at 7.45—Benedick, Mr. Henry Irving; Beatrice, Miss Ellen Terry. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-DAY, and SATURDAYS, Dec. 16, Dec. 23, Dec. 30, and Jan. 6, at Two o'clock. Box-Office (Mr. J. Hurst) open, Ten to Five.

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THE ANNUAL WINTER EXHIBITION OF HIGH-CLASS PICTURES, by English and Continental Artists, is Now Open at ARTHUR TOOTH AND SONS' GALLERY, 5, Haymarket, opposite Her Majesty's Theatre. Admission, One Shilling, including Catalogue.

POMONA. By J. E. MILLAIS, R.A. This new picture is NOW ON VIEW at ARTHUR TOOTH AND SONS' GALLERY, No. 5, Haymarket, opposite Her Majesty's Theatre.

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WITH OUR CHRISTMAS NUMBER,

NOW PUBLISHING,

IS GIVEN

A LARGE PICTURE, PRINTED IN COLOURS,

ENTITLED

CINDERELLA,

FROM THE PAINTING BY J. E. MILLAIS, R.A.,

Which formed one of the chief objects of attraction in last year's Royal Academy Exhibition, and for which the Proprietors of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS gave Three Thousand Guineas, it having been specially commissioned for this Christmas Number.

THE NUMBER CONTAINS

LOVE ME FOR EVER,

A CHRISTMAS CAROL IN PROSE,

By ROBERT BUCHANAN,

AND CONTRIBUTIONS BY

FRANCIS C. BURNAND, GEORGE AUGUSTUS SALA,

AND OTHERS.

ILLUSTRATIONS.

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS.

Drawn by KATE GREENAWAY, Engraved by R. and E. TAYLOR.

LOVE ME FOR EVER.

Two Engravings, one Drawn by W. H. OVEREND, and Engraved by W. J. PALMER; the other Drawn by F. MACNAB, and Engraved by W. J. PALMER.

THE SQUIRE'S PEW.

Drawn by F. DADD, Engraved by R. and E. TAYLOR.

PUSSY'S PERQUISITE.

Drawn by W. SCHUTZ, Engraved by R. BRENDAMOUR.

OUR CHURCH CHOIR: THE LEADING TENOR.

Drawn by F. BARNARD, Engraved by W. J. PALMER.

OUR CHURCH CHOIR: THE LEADING SOPRANO.

Drawn by F. BARNARD, Engraved by J. SWAIN.

THE BURGOMASTER'S DAUGHTER.

Drawn by G. H. BOUGHTON, A.R.A., Engraved by W. B. GARDNER.

HE STOOPS TO CONQUER.

Drawn by F. BARNARD, Engraved by W. J. PALMER.

THE GREEN DRAGON IN CHANCERY.

Drawn by S. READ, Engraved by W. J. PALMER.

RIVAL BELIES.

Drawn by R. C. WOODVILLE, Engraved by R. and E. TAYLOR.

LOST AND WON.

Drawn by R. C. WOODVILLE, Engraved by M. FROMENT.

DOG TICKET, MISS!.

Drawn by C. T. GARLAND, Engraved by M. FROMENT.

CHRISTMAS IN TOPSYTURVYDOM.

Drawn by H. FURNISS, Engraved by J. SWAIN.

THE FLAG OF TRUCE.

Drawn by A. HUNT, Engraved by R. LOUDAN.

BRINGING HOME THE CHRISTMAS TREE.

Drawn by A. HUNT, Engraved by R. LOUDAN.

TROUBLESOME TWINS.

Drawn by G. A. HOLMES, Engraved by R. LOUDAN.

CHRISTMAS GUESTS: THE LION AND THE LAMB.

Drawn by F. BARNARD, Engraved by G. F. HAMMOND.

The whole inclosed in a Handsome Coloured Wrapper, and published apart from the Ordinary Issue.

Price One Shilling; Postage Inland, Threepence-Halfpenny.

NEW STORY BY WILLIAM BLACK.

In the First Number of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS for the New Year will be commenced a New Story, entitled "YOLANDE," by WILLIAM BLACK, Author of "A Daughter of Heth," "The Princess of Thule," "Macleod of Dare," "Sunrise," &c.

With Next Week's Number, Two Whole Sheets, containing several Christmas Illustrations, will be given a Plate containing Nine Christmas Cards, from Drawings by C. J. STANILAND.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1882.

The impressive pageant of Monday was one of the historic landmarks of the prosperous and eventful reign of Queen Victoria. In the open air it was a popular demonstration hardly equalled, and certainly not surpassed, in simple grandeur by the opening of the Royal Exchange as far back as 1844, or by the State visit to St. Paul's Cathedral in 1872 in connection with the public Thanksgiving Service for the recovery of the Prince of Wales. No doubt the review of Nov. 18 in St. James's Park, in which her Majesty took so conspicuous a part, was a more imposing spectacle. But it was witnessed only by privileged spectators, the subsequent march of the troops fresh from the Egyptian campaign through the crowded thoroughfares skirting the park being an after-concession to popular feeling. On Monday, however, the progress of her Majesty from Paddington to the Strand was an essential part of the programme. It was an informal and, so far as the multitude were concerned, a spontaneous meeting of her Majesty and myriads of her subjects from town and country. As an exhibition of loyal respect it was perfect and overwhelming. The sun shone brightly upon the unusual scene, and the laudable zeal of

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

Come! Things are not so bad, meteorologically, after all. Blush roses and white camellias in full bloom in the open air in the court-yard of the General Post Office at Rome, on the Second of December. To-day, moreover, is the festival of Santa Bibiana, who is supposed to preside over the Italian Weather Bureau; similar duties are attended to in England by St. Swithin, and in France by St. Médard; and if we escape a downpour of rain to-day we may possibly go dry-shod throughout December. *Viva Santa Bibiana!* Still, her Saintship's name, it must be admitted, has somewhat of a moist sound.

What would you suppose to be the English topic which, at the present moment, is being discussed with the most eagerness—and it must be added, with commendable fairness and impartiality—by the more "serious" organs of the Italian press? The Royal Review? That is past and gone. Sir Garnet's elevation to the Peacock? That is a *fait accompli*. Lord Granville's politic speech to the Madagascar delegation? Scarcely. The Dublin assassinations? Those horrible crimes have not yet passed out of the domain of hurried telegrams. The subject on which the journals of the Peninsula are descanting at fullest length, and with the largest amount of gravity, is the Married Women's Property Act.

The *Pungolo* examines the provisions of this remarkable statute half with admiration and half in amazement, and appears to regard it as equally of the nature of a long and urgently demanded boon to the female sex, and of a new and portentous peril to the fabric of English society. Hear the *Pungolo*—

From the first of January next Englishwomen will enjoy full and entire independence with respect to the disposal of their private property. In a few weeks the bonds of mutual interest which formerly united husband and wife will be definitively severed. . . . According to the new law, the husband will not be able to touch a single penny of his wife's substance; and no menaces nor violence will enable him to wrong her financially. From the laundress who earns a couple of shillings (*un paio di scellini*) a day at the wash-tub to the *prima donna* who receives two hundred pounds (*sterline*) a night, no Englishwoman will be constrained to bestow a farthing on the man whom the law formerly constituted her consort and her lord. . . . It must be owned that this is an important step towards the complete emancipation of the weaker sex.

Well; exit Mr. Mantalini, I suppose. Exit the idle, dissolute, knavish scamp who "runs through his wife's money." Exit the heartless scoundrel who abandons his wife to all the bitterness of friendless poverty, and returning, after long years of absence perhaps, breaks up the new home which she has laboriously made for herself and her children, and seizes upon her earnings. Exit *le Mari de la Danseuse*, and enter the resolute, clear-minded married woman, who will say to her husband, "I possess, or I am making, a certain amount of property, and I intend to keep it. Take care how you behave yourself; or, when I die, I shall cut you off with a shilling, and leave all my New River Shares, my Indian Railways, my Bank Stock, and my Three per Cent Consols to my cousin Charley, in the Seventy-Seventh Bombardiers.

Mem.: I have seen a good deal of husbands and wives in my time; and if I have any faculty of observation it has generally led to the conclusion that the happiest marriages are those in which the bride, when she comes to the altars, has in the way of the world's goods precisely what she stands upright in, and no more. That was the dower, I apprehend, of the Maiden all Forlorn, who Married the Man all Tattered and Torn, in the nursery tale. That dilapidated groom, for all his raggedness, has a hopeful look in his face in Mr. Randolph Caldecott's good picture-book. I fancy that she mended his tatters and made him pull himself together; that he worked hard for her, and grew rich; and that, when he became old and was the wealthiest maltster in the county town, he made his will on half a sheet of note-paper and in a single sentence. "Everything to my Wife." Why not? "Everything to my Brother Tom" was deemed a legally sufficient testament, and was duly admitted to probate.

Still that complete emancipation of "the weaker sex" which the Italian Journal so hopefully foresees is, from certain points of view, very far off. A recent number of the *New York Herald* has an article headed "A Man's Right to Beat his Wife." It appears that at the last General Term in New York City the Supreme Court pronounced the wholesome opinion that a woman may maintain an action against her husband for beating her. The doctrine thus affirmed was a novelty in New York legislation. Hitherto it had been held (according to my American contemporary) that a married woman might sue any person for assault and battery, except her husband; and that to give her the right to appeal to the courts against his brutality would be "contrary to the policy of the law, and destructive of that conjugal union and tranquillity which it has always been the object of the law to guard and protect."

But the humane and equitable decision of the Supreme Court has just been overruled by the Court of Appeals. The *Herald* considers the overruling as "in entire harmony with the barbarous principles and practice of the Common Law, which looks upon a wife as a legal nonentity when it does not treat her as a slave." And yet how many thousands of pages have we read, or are we destined to read, extolling the wisdom and justice of the Common Law of England, which is yet, to a very great extent, the corner-stone of American jurisprudence. The drollest thing ever said, perhaps, touching the Common Law in this country was in a Parliamentary debate on the bill substituting private for public executions. An honourable member, in the course of a speech against the proposed measure, gravely observed that the English people were very fond of the Common Law; that they had a Common Law right to be hanged in public, and that hanged, *coram publico*, they insisted on being.

It is reported in Italy, I know not with how much truth, that the revival of Victor Hugo's elaborately puffed "Le Roi

s'Amuse" at the Théâtre Français has been less a *succès d'estime* than a practical *fasco*, and that orchestral *fauteuils* which were sold on the first night of performance for a thousand francs each were purchasable, on the second evening, at the moderate tariff of five francs a piece. The Italians are rubbing their hands over this departure of the glory of the dramatic Ichabod, and maliciously whispering that now, perchance, il Signore Victor Hugo will be fain to admit that, for stage purposes, the Italian *libretto* to Verdi's opera of "Rigoletto" is preferable to "Le Roi s'Amuse," and that now the illustrious poet might most gracefully remove the veto which has so long prevented the performance of "Rigoletto" at the Paris Opéra Comique.

It is by a singular coincidence that the virtual collapse of M. Hugo's fifty-year-old tragedy should have been nearly simultaneous with that of Mr. Tennyson's "Promise of May." Extremes meet; and both productions deal in extremes. M. Hugo, as a Radical extremist, assumes that a king must necessarily be a heartless profligate. Mr. Tennyson, as a Conservative extremist, assumes that an Agnostic Democrat must necessarily be a perfumed and profligate scamp. Both dramas also abound in long-winded soliloquies and prosy tirades, in which the individuality of the author is much more prominent than that of the dramatic character represented. "Le Roi s'Amuse," in the study, reads magnificently; and so, I have no doubt, would "The Promise of May."

As for the elaborate whitewashing of the character of François Premier, which has been attempted by the Paris correspondent of the *Times*, the best, perhaps, that can be said of the monarch, who, according to Béranger—

Servit Bellone et les belles,
Et fût, suivant l'histoire,
Fort souvent trompé par elles—

might be that he was the contemporary of our Henry VIII., and that he was not quite so great a scoundrel as that polygamous tyrant. And yet, a clever historian could more easily whitewash the Eighth Harry than the *Times* gentleman has essayed to whitewash the First Francis. Both were passionate lovers of and proficients in the fine arts. Francis was the friend and patron of Leonardo da Vinci, and it was in the King's arms at Cloux, near Amboise, that the wonderful old man died; and, as for Henry, did he not say "Out of seven ploughmen I can make seven lords; but out of seven lords I cannot make one Holbein"?

His admirers (and their name is legion) must needs forgive Victor Hugo for the astounding caricatures which he has made of history in his dramas. Englishmen will even excuse the wonderful hash of one of the grandest epochs in the Chronicles of England which he has concocted in "Cromwell," and they can afford to laugh at the grotesque vagaries of "Tomjimack" and his crew in "L'Homme qui rit"; but, to my mind, far less inexcusable is the poet's wanton blackening of the character of Lucrezia Borgia. 'Twas but last Monday that I was looking, in the Ambrosian Library at Milan, at a lock of her golden hair, and the faded autograph of her letter to Cardinal Bembo. The Borgias were certainly not, morally, a very lovely race; and the stage on which they played their part was a desperately stormy one; but Madonna Lucrezia was not by any means the monster that Victor Hugo has made her out to be. She never invited a party of young noblemen to supper and poisoned them all; she was never slaughtered with a carving-knife by her son. On the contrary, she died in her bed, in peace and honour.

Mem.: Let the noble correspondent who, some time ago, was so kindly courteous as to forward me some documents relative to Lucrezia Borgia, be perfectly tranquil as to their security. They are safe in a drawer at home, and shall be returned to him when I reach England. I always return papers even as I pay my tailor—eventually.

"Something new." I am quoting from a New York paper. "The Langtry Bang. Warranted naturally curly, or money refunded. From three dollars upwards. The Langtry Combination Braid. No front pin required. Made of long, naturally curly hair. Warranted, from ten dollars upwards. Very becoming. Does not rip or tear. Switches, all long hair, twenty-eight inches long, four ounces weight." I fancy I know what a "bang" is. It is something like what we call "the Idiot's fringe" gone "wobbly" or curly. But the "switch" puzzles me. I should not like to have a switch four ounces in weight. It might hurt. Probably it is something like a Chinaman's pig-tail, and "switches" or "swishes" as the wearer walks.

Touching Mrs. Langtry's impersonation in New York of the part of the heroine in "As You Like It," the *Herald* has a very fair, unbiased, and, on the whole, complimentary notice of the fair comedian's most ambitious effort, but which culminates in the decision that "though her Rosalind was fair and pleasant to look upon, it was not the Rosalind of Shakespeare." I would ask the American critic, and some scores of his critics, to boot, on this side the Atlantic, whether he or they have the slightest notion of a definite nature of what the Rosalind of Shakespeare was like. The nature of the character as it is presented in the play we know. It is one of the sweetest and most charming of the girl heroines of its immortal author. But the age in which Shakespeare wrote was essentially a coarse and unmannerly one. The lovely Rosalind herself and her confidant Celia very frequently indulge in the most unseemly dialogue; and both parts were, in the origin, played, not by graceful and ladylike women, but by lubberly boys. No woman appeared on the English stage until after the Restoration; and, to judge from the Duke of Buckingham's poetical criticism on the acting of Madame Eleanor Gwynne, delicacy and refinement were certainly not the leading characteristics, as an actress, of "pretty, witty Nelly." To my thinking, it is as unjust to say of this or that actress that she is not "Shakespeare's Rosalind" as it would be to say of this or that actor that he is not "Shakespeare's Lear." Who knows what Shakespeare's Lear was like?

In re the old lady who was so desirous to "lam" or "lamm" me. A number of correspondents tell me that "lam" is an old English word, signifying to beat or otherwise maltreat anyone, and is still current throughout the United States. One correspondent observes that "to lam" is a thorough "Bowery Boy" expression. But Sir Walter Scott, in "Peveril of the Peak," says that "lam" or, as he spells it, "Lambe" was a slang expression deriving its origin from the fate of one Dr. Lambe, an astrologer, who was knocked on the head by the mob some time in the reign of Charles I. That "lam" is a much older word than "Lambe" by no means proves that Sir Walter was wrong. At all events, when a person threatens to "lam" me in future, I shall know what he means. I thought for a moment that "lam" was a corruption of "limb." "I'll limb you" is a common menace among the many-headed.

I came across lately, in a Belgian and an American paper respectively, two of the mournful tales I have ever read. Both are love stories. One is wholly miserable; but athwart the deep gloom of the other gleams a ray of hope. Here is the hopeless tale:—At Charleroi a young girl, employed as a clerk in the local post-office, has been committed for trial for illegally opening correspondence passing through her hands. While sorting letters for delivery she chanced on one bearing the name and address of a person of her own sex who was unknown to her. But the handwriting on the envelope she knew, alack! too well. It was the hand of her own sweetheart. Frenzied with jealousy, she tore open the letter, to find, to her anguish and despair, that she had a successful rival. But the law had been outraged and must be avenged; and the girl is now in jail. Judge and jury will possibly be very merciful to this poor creature.

The story with a ray of hope in it is more dramatic. Somewhere in the State of New York lived a young German American, who wooed, too successfully, a girl also of Teutonic extraction. A child was born; and the faithless man refused to do justice to the woman whom he had wronged. Her relations shot him? No. They made the girl bring an action for breach of promise against him; and she recovered heavy damages. In revenge, the perfidious lover made an attempt to burn down the house in which the girl was living with her friends. The attempt happily failed; and the incendiary was arrested, tried, and sentenced to five years' imprisonment in the penitentiary. But the girl whom he had betrayed, and whose life even he had imperilled, still loved him. After a while, she came to see him in prison. His heart was softened. He was remorseful, and implored her forgiveness. She had already granted it, in her heart; and, with the consent of the authorities, the man, in his hideous striped convict livery, was married, in one of the corridors of the prison, to the mother of his child. Two warders acted as groomsmen, and a justice of the peace, who was a member of the Board of Supervisors, performed the nuptial ceremony. The prison officials "stood" the wedding ring, and made up among them a handsome little purse for the bride. The bridegroom has yet the greater portion of his sentence to serve.

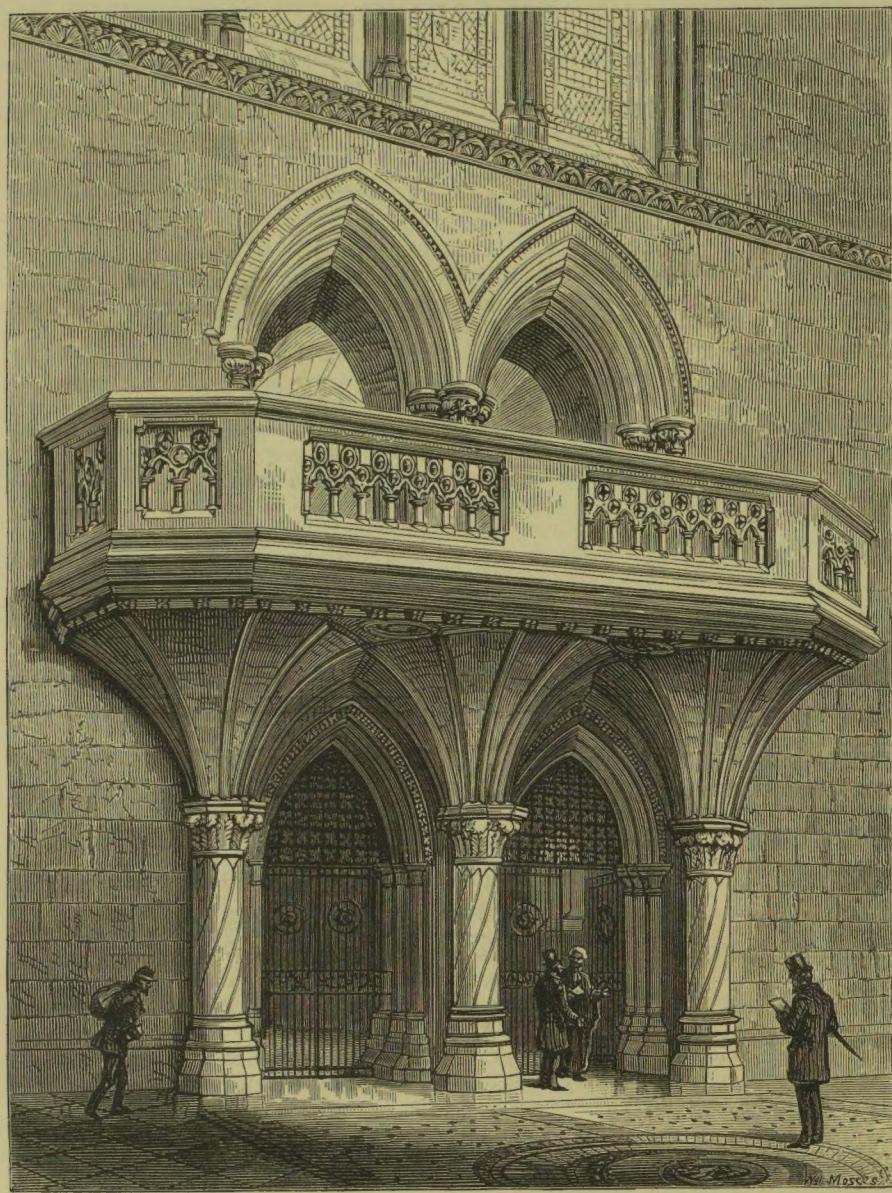
I suppose that in the economy of one of her Majesty's prisons such an occurrence as the foregoing would be next door to the impossible. But abroad the maxim seems to prevail that though Justice is entitled to her full rights over a prisoner, she is not entitled to prevent his doing an act of reparation. The man might have died before his sentence had expired, leaving the woman whom he had wronged yet unrighted. You will remember that when Henri Rochefort was a convict under life-sentence of deportation he was brought to Versailles, and allowed to marry the dying mother of his children, who were thus legitimatised by the marriage.

But if you want an American shooting story of the "straightest" kind, here is one. At Paris, Kentucky, there is (and was, for the matter of that) a fourteen-year-old schoolboy, named Homer Oldson. This young gentleman habitually played truant from school; and one day the master told him that the next time he came late he must bring a written apology with him. On the morrow Master Homer Oldson presented himself late as usual at the magisterial desk. He handed in a neatly-written apology; but, at the same time, remarked, "Take that, too," and, suiting the action to the word, drew a revolver "of number thirty-two calibre" and fired point blank at his preceptor. The ball passed through the fleshy part of the schoolmaster's left arm; and he, "after having the wound dressed, resumed his teaching." It is not stated whether with the arm which remained uninjured he administered a "dressing" to his young and murderous assailant.

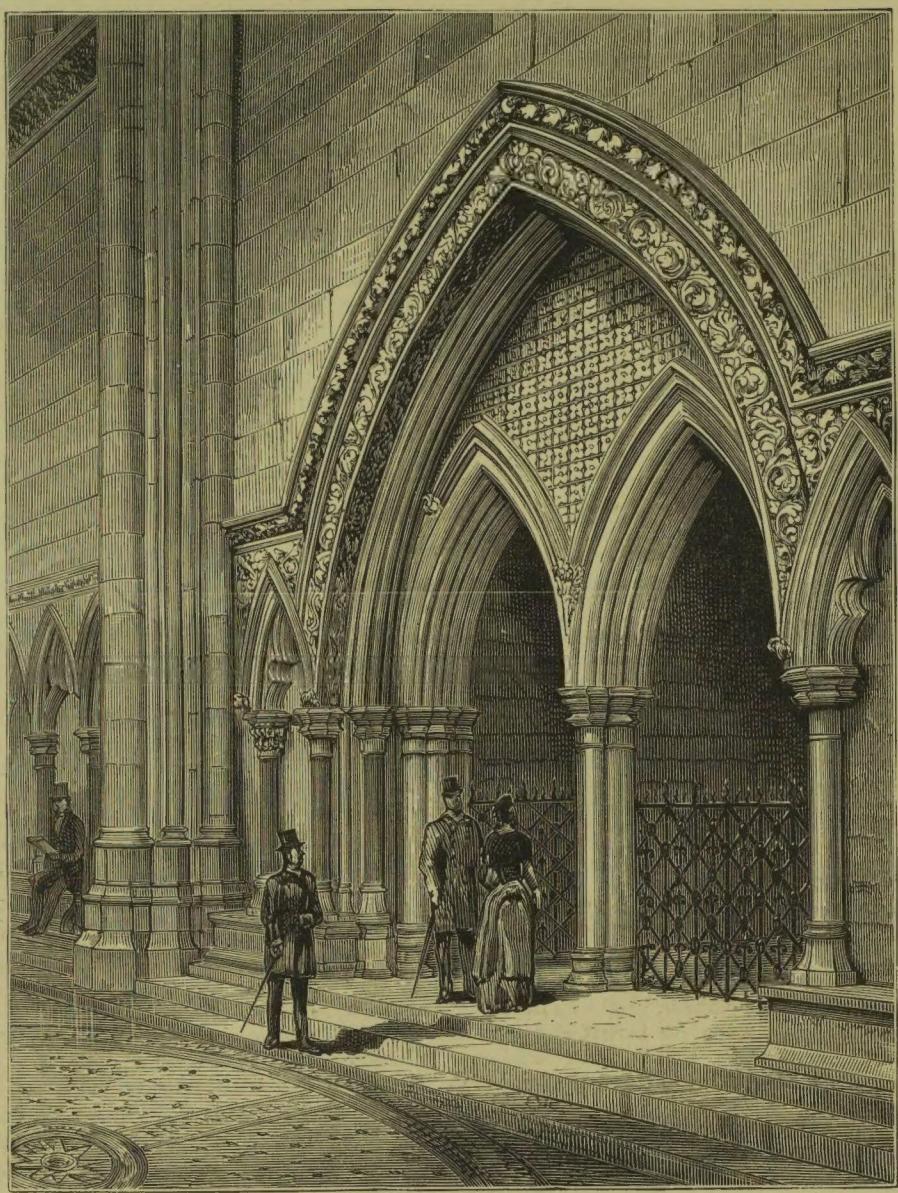
I commend this story to the attention of the philanthropic ladies and gentlemen who are so anxious to bring about the total abolition of corporal punishment in Board Schools. I know, from experience, that among the Latin races it is easy to manage the largest public schools without any blows or stripes whatsoever. The French, the Italian, the Spanish public schoolboy (I am not speaking of the boy brought up in a clerical seminary) is never beaten. The writings of Jean Jacques Rousseau banished the rod from French colleges, and it has never been revived there. But what is scholastic authority to do with pupils of the Master Homer Oldson type? I will not say that English boys are as familiar with the use of firearms as Master Oldson seems to be; but I will say that every large English school, be it public or private, plebeian or aristocratic, contains a proportion of young desperados whom it is almost impossible to keep in subjection unless some means of physical coercion are vested in the master. The long and the short of the matter is, that boys of the Anglo-Saxon race are the most courageous and the most pugnacious of all boys; and that when they are not fighting with each other, or playing mischievous tricks, their bravery is apt to take the objectionable form of rebellion against authority and open defiance of their masters and masters.

G. A. S.

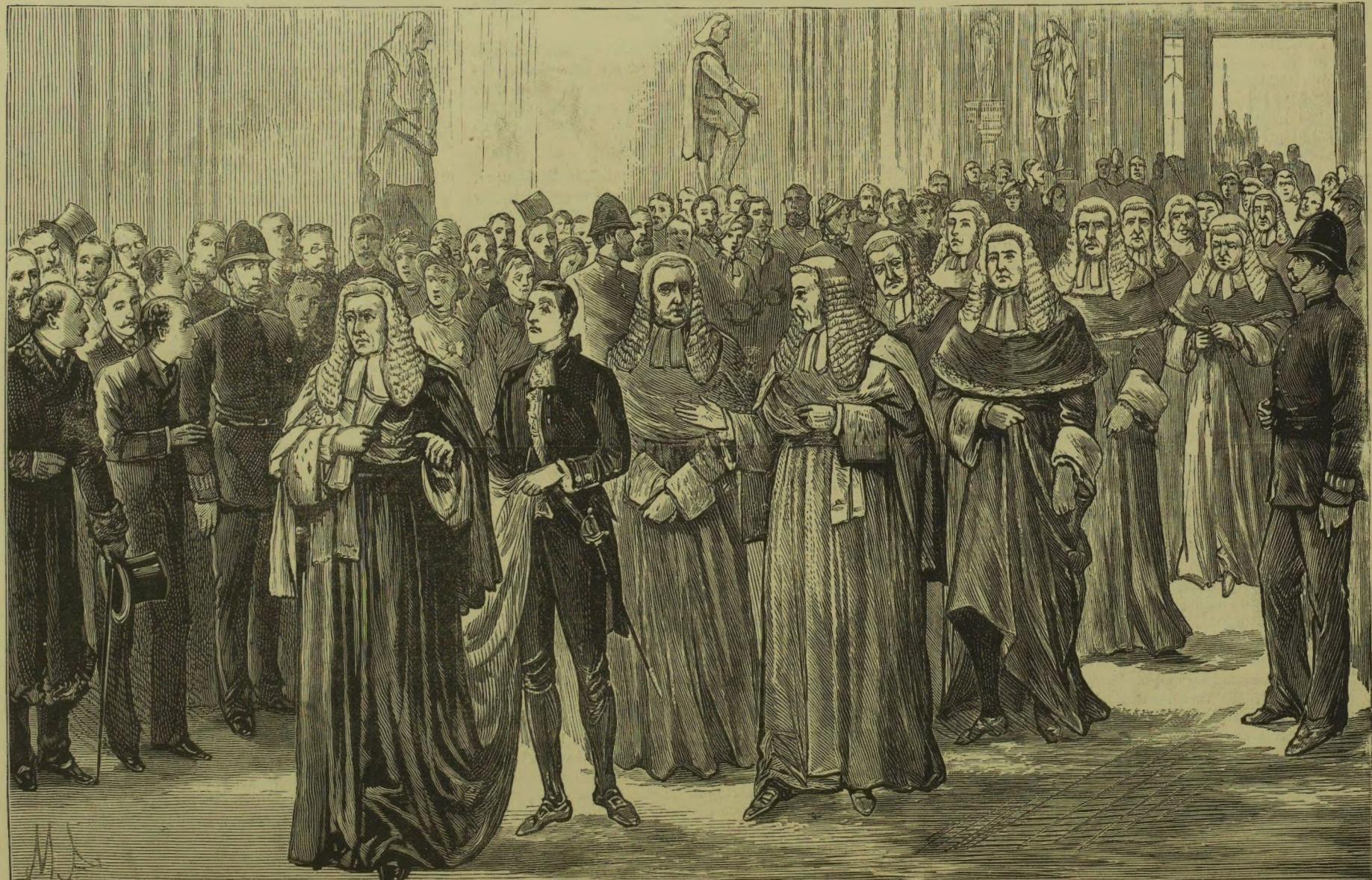
OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.



BALCONY AT THE NORTH END OF CENTRAL HALL.



NORTH-EAST CORNER OF CENTRAL HALL.



THE JUDGES' FAREWELL TO WESTMINSTER HALL.

OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.



SKETCHES IN THE CROWD OPPOSITE CHARING-CROSS STATION.



VIEW FROM THE ROOF OF THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS" OFFICE, STRAND.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

It is easy to understand the fascination to the actress of experience and intelligence of a character as varied, as vivid and emotional as Adrienne Lecourvre. Here she has three great passions to enter into and depict—the absorbing influence of love, the irresistible hate of jealousy, the pathetic despair of death. If there be any soul whatever in an artist, she can understand and touch, if she cannot fully realise, such a love as that which possessed the famous actress of the Comédie Française, when she yielded herself to the fascination of the handsome young Maurice de Saxe, insulted her hostess and rival in her fashionable salon, and died strangled with the poisoned fumes from a bouquet treacherously sent. Playgoers, who know anything about the play, have studied the character backwards. They know all the familiar points—the recital of the fable of the two pigeons, the famous sentence that closes the word duel in the dark between the two women, *et moi je vous protège*; the theatrical effect of the actress, invited as a guest, reciting at her hated hostess; and, lastly, the “death in life,” that can be represented in so many different ways. Seriously, can anything more be said about Adrienne Lecourvre, who has suddenly come to the front again and been unearthed by the actresses of power and promise. We all know what Rachel did with the part, how Ristori treated it, the controversy that sprung up when Sara Bernhardt astonished even her detractors by the tenderness of her love, the muscular energy of her hate, the childlike despair of her death, and, finally, the totally new and distinct complexion given to the play by the acting of Helena Modjeska. Of recent years “Adrienne Lecourvre” has been as well thumbed as any copy of a stage play, though for years it slumbered in a version by Mr. John Oxenford called “The Reigning Favourite,” written for that excellent actress Mrs. Stirling. But there seems to be an implied warning to all ambitious ladies not to touch Adrienne Lecourvre, because all these stars have glittered in it. As well tell them not to touch Lady Macbeth because there was a Mrs. Siddons, Juliet because once on a time there flourished a Miss O’Neil, or Beatrice because there lived a Helen Faust. We cannot afford to put aside the great characters of the acting drama because they have been superbly played. New generations are ever springing up who are in search of idols, and the old playgoer, however sincere, is secretly looked upon as a bore. Miss Wallis is an actress of very deep feeling and high intelligence. She shows her audience that she has a heart, and when she acts she feels what she says and does. She does not repeat so many lines of text and look a part well, but she tries to become the woman she is personating. Is it a tax on the memory of my readers to carry it as far back as the days of the Queen’s Theatre, when “Amos Clarke”—a capital play, by-the-by—by Watts Phillips, and “Cromwell,” by Colonel Bates Richards, were produced? In both plays Miss Wallis made a really brilliant success, and was looked upon as the coming actress. The strong touch of genuineness has never deserted her, and it was pleasant indeed to renew her acquaintance when playing Adrienne at the Vaudeville the other afternoon.

But Miss Wallis forgot, as many other actresses persist in forgetting, that this is one of the plays that should never be attempted without style, tone, and finish in the general representation. The most promising actress would be broken down by such incompetent, not to say ludicrous, support. We are taught by the play to believe that the green-room at the Comédie Française was the perfection of taste, discretion, and elegant decorum; and we find it on representation an aggregate of all that is impotent and imbecile. Scarcely less distasteful are the scenes that deal with French Court life at a time of its most exclusive elegance and refinement. The impression left upon the educated part of the audience is that of blank despair that such things should be; those who are uneducated or steeped hopelessly in a swamp of Philistinism, exhibit their taste by calling out for special applause a self-satisfied lad who more than any other did his best to make the scene in which he acted unnatural, stupid, and vulgar. If ridiculous overacting and absurdity are to be considered good art, then this boy deserved the applause he got; but if the green-room at the Comédie Française was such a place as Michonnet, the dear old prompter, represented it to be; then I wonder he permitted the anachronism of cockney Fleet-street and London of the most pronounced type to offend the ears and sensitive tastes of Adrienne, her handsome Maurice, and the scented and cat-footed Abbé. How, let me ask, could such a “call boy” be tolerated in this society, and is it kindness to reward with applause such ridiculous exaggeration as this? No doubt this young gentleman would be admirable as a cheeky page-boy or doctor’s buttons in a farce; but this was not modern London at all, or farce at all, but life in Paris at the beginning of the eighteenth century. But education, as it is called, brings about contradictory results. The other evening, in a programme of really admirable music, I heard a double encore awarded to the old “Post Horn Galop,” a vulgar jingle of sounds at the best. The assembled audience would listen to nothing else.

A curious change has come over the fortunes of the Poet Laureate’s play, “The Promise of May,” notwithstanding the unpopularity of the hero, Edgar, and the diatribes of the secular society. The advertisement given to dramatic unconventionality by the Marquis of Queensberry, and the discussion that arose out of it, have, at any rate, aroused such distinct curiosity and interest that Mrs. Bernard-Beere will not find it necessary to make any change until Christmas has come and gone. When the pantomimes are well out will be produced the new version of “Jane Eyre,” by Mr. W. G. Wills, which I hear highly spoken of. Mrs. Bernard-Beere will be Jane Eyre, Mr. Charles Kelly Rochester, and Miss Sophie Young the proud rival of the loving heroine. The story has been treated in a thoroughly original and unconventional manner.

As was anticipated, “The Silver King,” at the Princess’s, is the great success of the season—the play of the year. This fine drama—well constructed, highly interesting, and full of noble thought and sentiment—is well worth a second visit; for I am confident that the most plastic mind cannot register on an excited first night every possible impression. The acting of Mr. Wilson Barrett—starting with a bold stroke of comedy, ascending to tragedy, and gradually softening down to pathos—has not as yet had justice done it. There is material here for a true essay on acting, and it will promptly receive the attention it deserves.

Contrary to custom, December will be anything but a dull theatrical month this year, for it is interesting to note the marked decline in the attraction of pantomime and Christmas pieces. Drury will have a monopoly of pantomime, and burlesque is almost dead. The next interesting event will be the reopening of the St. James’s Theatre on Saturday, the return of Mr. Hare and the Kendals, and the production of a new play, called “Impulse,” by Mr. B. C. Stephenson (the Bolton Rowe of other days).

For upwards of a quarter of a century books about the play were as useless as books about poetry, or professing to contain it. Recently a gentle reaction has set in, and, though the majority of our dramatic historians are not wholly to be

trusted, it is, at any rate, a sign of the times that the drama is still to be considered literature, and to be chronicled as one of the fine arts. One of the best, most candid, and least bumptious of recent dramatic volumes is called “English Dramatists of To-day,” by William Archer. It has one good quality; it is sincere. With many of Mr. Archer’s conclusions I wholly differ, but he has given thought and intelligence to his study. Still the book is ludicrously incomplete. I see no sufficient tribute of the merit as a dramatist of Dr. Westland Marston, and no mention whatever of such purely literary dramatists as Mr. Frank Marshall, the clever lady who writes under the name of Ross Niel, or of Mr. Robert Buchanan. This last is the strangest omission of all, since Mr. Buchanan’s work should surely have been considered by an historian who has such a horror of vulgarity, puns, burlesque and frivolity, and who deplores the absence of literature in the drama. Mr. Robert Buchanan is, no doubt, extremely sensitive on the matter of criticism, and his published manifestoes against the critics may have alarmed Mr. Archer into discreet silence; but for all that his plays are too good to be ignored. One of the best of them is “The Nine Days’ Queen,” and it will live, which is more than can be said of many modern poetical plays. It was revived recently at the Gaiety—the favourite home of matinées—and the character of Lady Jane Grey was once more undertaken by Miss Hattie Jay, a picturesque lady and an actress of considerable intelligence, who has been working steadily at perfecting herself in her art. The revival, apparently, gave considerable satisfaction, and Miss Jay was supported by Miss R. Erskine, Mr. Beerbohm Tree, and Mr. Courtenay Thorpe, who are facile and experienced. C. S.

Next Wednesday Messrs. Reed and Grain will produce, at St. George’s Hall, their Christmas programme, comprising a new first piece, by Arthur Law, music by King Hall, entitled “A Strange Host; or, a Happy New Year;” and a new second piece, by Gilbert A’Beckett, music by Corney Grain, entitled “That Dreadful Boy.” Mr. Corney Grain’s musical sketch, “En Route,” will be retained in the programme.

A series of dramatic recitals have been given during the past week in the new room at the St. James’s Hall, by John Colbourne Trinder, a bright looking boy of fourteen. He is a good elocutionist; his voice is completely under control, and his memory is wonderfully retentive, some half-dozen entire plays having been given at the recitals.

THE COURT.

A Council was held by her Majesty last Saturday at Windsor Castle for the prorogation of Parliament. Prince Augustus Louis of Saxe-Coburg came to luncheon; and her Majesty’s dinner party included Princess Beatrice, Lady Waterpark, the Rev. J. St. John and Lady Florence Blunt, General the Right Hon. Sir H. and the Hon. Lady Ponsonby, the Hon. Horatio Stopford, Lieut.-General E. A. Whitmore, Colonel Lambton, Coldstream Guards; Major-General Sir J. C. M’Neill, and Colonel the Hon. W. Carington. The Rev. J. St. John Blunt, Master of St. Katharine’s Hospital, performed Divine service in the private chapel on Sunday, the Queen and Princess Beatrice being present. Her Majesty, with her Royal Highness, drove out in the afternoon, and Princess Christian came to see the Queen. Lady Florence Blunt and the Hon. Lady Biddulph joined the Royal dinner circle. Her Majesty, although greatly saddened by the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury on Sunday, performed the public duty of opening the Royal Courts of Justice on Monday, accompanied by Princess Christian and Princess Beatrice; the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Albany, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck, awaiting her Majesty at the main entrance of the building, where she was met by the Lord Chancellor and various official dignitaries. After receiving the key of the courts, the Queen delivered a graceful speech, the Prince of Wales subsequently presenting an address on behalf of the Inns of Court; addresses from the Incorporated Law Society and from the workmen engaged on the building following. The general ceremonial is illustrated and described. The Empress Eugenie arrived on a visit, Princess Beatrice having met her at the Windsor Railway Station and accompanied her to the castle; her Majesty, attended by the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, receiving her at the entrance. Of those recently entertained at dinner by the Queen, independently of the Royal family, have been the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Mrs. Richard Moreton, the Earl of Dalhousie, Admiral Sir A. Cooper Key, Lieutenant-General and Lady Jane Taylor, Mrs. Gladstone, the Lord Steward, the Quartermaster-General, Captain St. George C. D’Arcy Irvine, Madame D’Arcos, the Duc de Bassano, Major-General Sir Evelyn and the Hon. Lady Wood, Captain Slade, Captain the Hon. Alexander Yorke, Captain Edwards, Major-General Du Plat, and the Master of the Household. Various knight-hoods have been conferred by her Majesty, and numerous appointments to the Order of the Bath have been made.

The Princess of Wales’s birthday was commemorated at Sandringham in the usual simple manner, conferring pleasure on all those connected with the Royal estates and others in the district. The school-childrens’ tea was graced by the presence of her Royal Highness and her daughters; and in the evening a ball was given to the principal tenants of the county. On Saturday the Prince and Princess hunted with the West Norfolk hounds. The Bishop of Bath and Wells arrived on a visit; and on Sunday he performed Divine service at the parish church, their Royal Highnesses and their daughters being present. The Prince came to town on Monday for the opening of the Royal Courts of Justice, after which he lunched with the Treasurer and Benchers of the Middle Temple, and in the afternoon visited the Smithfield Club Cattle Show at the Agricultural Hall, Islington. His Royal Highness, after presiding at a meeting of his Council, held at the office of the Duchy of Cornwall, on Tuesday left town for Orwell Park, Suffolk, on a visit to Colonel Tomline.

The Duke of Edinburgh, personal Aide-de-Camp to the Queen, has been promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral in her Majesty’s Fleet.

The Duke of Albany was present at the half-yearly communication of Grand Lodge of Mark Masons at the Freemasons’ Tavern on Tuesday, when a wedding gift, consisting of two silver vases and a silver ewer, voted by Grand Lodge, was presented to him. He afterwards consecrated a new Mark Lodge, styled the Grand Mark Master Masons’ Lodge.

The local committee acting with reference to the forthcoming National Eisteddfod meeting at Cardiff have decided to offer prizes to the aggregate amount of £1200. The Marquis of Bute has promised to preside over one of the meetings; and among others Mr. Gladstone, Lord Aberdare, and Sir E. J. Reed are to be invited to become presidents. The Guarantee Fund is now more than £500, and the subscription list amounts to £500.

MUSIC.

POPULAR CONCERTS.

The reappearance of Herr Joachim is always a special event in our musical year. Its recurrence, at this week’s evening concert (on Monday), again drew a crowded and enthusiastic audience, and elicited a hearty greeting, similar to those by which the great artist has been welcomed in many past seasons. He led, with his well-known fine qualities of tone, mechanism, and style, the third of Beethoven’s Rasoumowsky quartets (in C), and Mendelssohn’s otet for stringed instruments—his solo piece having been Bach’s concerto in A minor, which was given with double quartet accompaniment. The last movement of this fine specimen of the old school pleased so much that it had to be repeated. Herr Joachim’s associates in the quartet were MM. L. Ries, Straus, and Piatti; and in the otet the same artists and MM. Pollitzer, Wiener, Zerbini, and Pezze—the accompaniments to the concerto having been rendered by all the executants just named, with the addition of Mr. Zerbini, jun., and Mr. Reynolds. Miss Dora Schirmacher produced a very favourable impression by her brilliant performance of Mendelssohn’s “Scherzo à Capriccio,” in F sharp minor, and (as an encore) a gigue by Handel. This composer’s air, “Thou shalt die” (from his opero, “Rodelinda”), and German lieder by Halldan Kjerulf and Taubert, were very expressively sung by Miss Carlotta Elliot—Mr. Zerbini having been, as usual, the accompanist.

CRYSTAL PALACE.

M. Gounod’s oratorio, “The Redemption,” was performed at last Saturday’s concert, this having been the fourth repetition since its first production at the Birmingham Festival last August, and its first hearing at Sydenham. The other occasions were at Bristol in October, and last month at Mr. Kulie’s Brighton Festival, and at the Royal Albert Hall, where it is to be given again this (Saturday) afternoon. The Crystal Palace performance included the important features of the co-operation of Mr. E. Lloyd and Mr. Santley in the many passages for the narrators; the music for the first solo soprano (hitherto sung by Madame Albani) having been assigned to Mrs. Hutchinson, who acquitted herself well in her arduous task. The contralto music (originally associated with Madame Patey) was well rendered by Madame Fassett, as was that for the second soprano by Miss M. Fenna; some subordinate phrases for bass having been allotted to Mr. Pyatt.

The fine scene of the March to Calvary again produced a marked effect; other specialties having been the orchestral opening, and the movements illustrative of Darkness, the Earthquake, the Holy Women at the Sepulchre, the Resurrection and Ascension, and the Apostles in Prayer. The beautiful choruses, “From Thy Love as a Father,” and “Lovely Appear”—each including an important solo for the principal soprano—the fine movements, “Now Behold ye the Guard,” “Unfold, ye Portals Everlasting,” the “Hymn of the Apostles,” and the interspersed chorales, were again highly effective. The elaborate and difficult orchestral details were finely rendered, and the singing of the Crystal Palace choir was generally far superior to that of some past instances. Mr. Manns conducted, and Mr. A. J. Eyre presided at the organ.

The Covent Garden Promenade Concerts are to close next Monday evening. The performances, conducted by Mr. Gwyllim Crowe, have well maintained their variety and attractiveness, both as to the orchestral music and the vocal and instrumental solos. Recent evenings have been devoted to selections of English music, including the production of a new pianoforte concerto composed by Mr. E. Evans, and performed by Mr. Leipold; and a pleasing and melodious overture entitled “The Holiday,” the composition of Mr. E. Fanning.

The last evening concert of Mr. John Boosey’s three ballad concerts given before Christmas took place last week, when the performances comprised two new ballads, “For Pity’s Sake,” by S. Adams; and “Kismet,” by Molloy. They were effectively sung, respectively, by Miss M. Davies and Mr. Santley, and each was encored. These vocalists, Miss Santley, Madame Antoinette Sterling, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Maybrick also contributed to a varied and popular selection, the programme having likewise included some good part-singing by the South London Choral Association, and violin solos finely played by Madame Norman-Neruda. The last of the series was given on Wednesday afternoon, when similar attractions were offered.

Three of Mr. Henry Holmes’s interesting Musical Evenings have now taken place at the Royal Academy of Music. On the last occasion the programme comprised a manuscript quintet by Mr. Holmes.

The Royal Amateur Orchestral Society opens its eleventh season this (Saturday) evening—at the Albert Hall—with a well-varied programme of instrumental and vocal music.

The first concert of Mr. Willing’s newly-instituted choir takes place next Tuesday evening, when Handel’s “Acis and Galatea” and Herr Gade’s “Psyche” are to be performed.

The third and last subscription concert by Madame Sainton Dolby’s pupils will take place next Thursday evening at Steinway Hall.

The annual concert in aid of the funds of the Post Office Orphan Home will take place next Wednesday evening at St. James’s Hall. Several artists, including Sir Julius and Lady Benedict, have promised their assistance.

The first concert of Mr. Willing’s Choir is announced to take place at St. James’s Hall on Tuesday evening next, when Handel’s Serenata “Acis and Galatea” (with Costa’s additional accompaniments) will be performed. The principal vocalists are Madame Marie Roze, Miss H. Coward, Miss J. Rosse, Mr. Edward Lloyd, Mr. A. James, Mr. J. Bridson, and Mr. F. King. The orchestra is entirely professional, and numbers seventy performers, with Mr. Alfred J. Eyre as organist, and the chorus consists of 150 voices. The Earl of Lathom is president and Sir Michael Costa vice-president, with whose arrangement of the National Anthem the performance will begin.

Viscount Dungarvan, eldest son of the Earl of Cork, attained his majority yesterday week, and the day was celebrated at Marston House with great festivities.

If during the Christmas holidays you should hear issuing from the children’s room a series of small explosions, followed by riotous explosions of laughter, you may be pretty sure that Messrs. Tom Smith and Co.’s Crackers are being let off. New designs and quaint shapes and forms are encased in artistic-looking cracklers, causing rare fun as the grotesque contents are brought to light.

It has long been proposed to carry the present foreshore road round the foot of the Castle-hill at Scarborough, continuing the carriage road and promenade along the North Sands. This would form one of the finest and most agreeable seaside carriage roads in England. The Corporation have determined to procure the necessary plans, specifications, and probable cost of construction without delay. For this purpose they have secured the services of Sir John Coode.

THE SILENT MEMBER.
PROROGATION.

Yes; the child is father to the man. The remarkable buoyancy of our perennial Premier's bearing at the opening of the new Courts of Justice surely had birth in the youthful exuberance of spirits with which Mr. Gladstone as an Eton Boy was wont to "break up" for the Christmas Holidays. Everybody present in the Great Hall of the Lawyers' Palace on Monday must have been struck by the remarkable sprightliness of the illustrious statesman, the jubilee of whose public career is close at hand. Quite recovered from the slight indisposition of last week, Mr. Gladstone appeared to revel in the comparative freedom from harness the Prorogation of Parliament had brought to him.

Mr. Gladstone's "grip" of the House of Commons has never been more manifest than it was during the late autumn Session. In readiness of debate, force of argument, and clearness of delivery, the right hon. gentleman excelled himself. He not only had the satisfaction of carrying the Ministerial rules for the conduct of business well in their integrity; but Mr. Gladstone must have chuckled to himself over his success in hindering alike the disorganized Conservative Opposition and the unorganized Radical wing from bringing forward the threatened motions of censure upon the Government for the treatment of Arabi Pasha, and for entering into the Egyptian War. Not even the sublimely self-confident Lord Randolph Churchill (Mr. Gladstone's most waspish assailant) contrived to find an opportunity to bring the Ministry to book with regard to their policy towards Egypt. Possibly, a little more political backbone will have been developed by the time Parliament resumes its labours, in February next.

Hon. members at the close of last week resembled in one respect Sheridan's critics. When they did agree, their unanimity was wonderful. Rigid antagonism to the tag of the Procedure Resolution collapsed yesterday week, the Government agreeing that the Grand Committees sanctioned by the House should only be tried as an experiment till the end of next Session.

There was a general feeling of relief when the end came on Saturday. The Lord Chancellor had the pleasure to read to the House of Lords a brief letter of thanks from General Sir Garnet (now Baron) Wolseley for the complimentary resolution passed by Parliament in regard to his conduct of the Expedition to Cairo. Then the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, Lord Kimberley, Lord Curzon, and Lord Monson, arrayed in their cumbersome robes and hats, acted as Royal Commissioners for the Prorogation till Thursday, Feb. 15 next, and to the assembled Lords and Commons Lord Selborne read—

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
After a Session of remarkable duration, I am at length enabled to bring your labours to a close.

I continue to hold relations of cordial amity with all foreign Powers.

The commercial negotiations with France, which were proceeding in the month of February, did not result in the conclusion of a treaty. But the Government and Legislature of that country have pursued an enlightened policy; and there has not, in consequence, been any general falling off in the dealings between the two countries, which at once promote their material well-being and strengthen the bond of friendship now happily uniting them.

The operations in Egypt, both naval and military, which a wise liberality enabled me to conduct upon an adequate scale, and which were prosecuted with such energy and fidelity in all the departments, were brought to an early and successful issue.

I take this opportunity of placing upon record my gratitude to the able officers who commanded by sea and land, and to the victorious forces, of which my Indian army supplied a distinguished part.

The recent events in Egypt have enhanced my obligations in regard to its affairs, of which I spoke to you at the beginning of your protracted Session.

I shall study to discharge my duties in such a manner as to maintain international engagements, to uphold and consolidate the privileges which have been successively acquired, to promote the happiness of the people and the "prudent development of their institutions," and to avoid any measure which might tend towards disturbing the tranquillity of the East.

And I feel confident that my aims, and the result of my councils, will command themselves to the approval of the Powers, my allies, in their several relations to that interesting region.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,
I thank you for the supplies which you have granted me to meet the various and extended wants of the public service.

MY LORDS AND GENTLEMEN,
After a succession of unfavourable seasons in the greater portion of the United Kingdom, the produce of the land has, during the present year, been for the most part abundant, and trade is moderately active.

The growth of the revenue, however, is sensibly retarded by a cause which must in itself be contemplated with satisfaction; I refer to the diminution in the receipts of the Exchequer from the duties on intoxicating liquors.

In some parts of Ireland I am compelled to anticipate distress during the approaching winter.

I have also to record with deep pain that the horrible crime of assassination has been rife in the Metropolitan City of Dublin; and there is a special call of duty upon the Executive authority to exercise with fidelity and firmness the powers with which it has been intrusted.

In the social condition of the country at large, however, I have the satisfaction of noting that there has been a marked improvement; and the law has acted with renewed vigour under the provisions you have devised. I have an earnest hope that this improvement will be maintained and extended.

I am indebted to your wisdom for having passed the measures which I deemed indispensable for restoring the supremacy of the law in Ireland, and for removing impediments to the wide and progressively enlarged action of the Land Act of 1881.

You have also passed a variety of measures from which, in their several spheres of operation, I anticipate much advantage to my people.

I could, indeed, have desired to congratulate you at the present time on your having been able to meet the wants of the country for practical and effective legislation on many well-known and weighty subjects of high interest to large portions of the community, some of which I commended to your notice at the opening of the Session.

After the recess, you will resume your labours under circumstances which, I trust, may prove more favourable to their accomplishment than those of the current year; and I rely with confidence on your energy and wisdom for the discharge, under the Divine blessing, of the arduous responsibilities which must ever attach to the Parliament of my empire.

The Mayor of Manchester presided at a meeting held last week for the purpose of raising a fund to establish a Natural History Museum in connection with Owens College. Towards the £50,000 which will be needed about £20,000 has been subscribed.

Mr. Alfred Gray, of Albert-street, Regent's Park, whose productions we have favourably noticed on previous occasions, sends some specimens of Egyptian and other etched Christmas and New-Year cards. The designs are in every case reproductions from pen-and-ink sketches by Mr. Baxter or himself. He incloses a specimen of hand-painting on porcelain, the work of English ladies at their own homes; and four hundred diligent hands have, he says, found constant employment in the execution of such cards for this season.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CATTLE SHOW.

The eighty-fifth annual exhibition of fat cattle, sheep, pigs, and implements, held by the Smithfield Club at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, during the present week, has proved to be one of the largest, if not the largest of all, yet got together by the club. It is certainly the largest for fourteen years, the entries of which are before us. The following table shows at a glance the entries, classified according to the leading divisions, for the ten years ending with 1882:—

	1874	1875	1876	1877	1878	1879	1880	1881	1882
Devons	33	31	45	30	29	31	38	36	43
Herefords	23	27	33	24	23	43	19	39	24
Shorthorns	32	33	63	32	41	62	47	54	61
Sussex	32	27	36	31	26	26	29	37	
Scots and other breeds	54	72	74	59	59	77	72	73	83
Sheep	177	161	153	172	156	150	138	178	187
Pigs	47	46	61	52	63	50	62	85	84
Total entry	398	392	435	391	401	439	402	494	519

These figures show that not only were the cattle, as a whole, and the sheep more numerous than in the nine previous shows, but that of all the leading breeds Shorthorns alone have been more numerous by a single entry on one previous occasion; while pigs fell short only by one entry of the unusually large number exhibited last year. In point of quality, too, the general excellence of the animals was remarkable, so that we may fairly conclude that this last show of the Smithfield Club has been the best it has ever held. Seeing that the country has not yet recovered from the severe agricultural depression that has so long been suffered, this great success is so extraordinary as to be apparently anomalous; but it is to be borne in mind that comparatively few of the exhibitors are tenant-farmers getting their living entirely by agriculture; while the chief sufferers by the depression, the farmers of arable land, are very sparsely represented at a great cattle show like that which has just come to an end. The past year has been a particularly profitable one to the breeders and graziers of live stock. Cattle have sold well, while the prices obtained for fat sheep and lambs during the autumn have never been exceeded, if equalled. Even pigs—which, in rude but expressive rhetorical phraseology, are said to be "all muck or all money"—have till quite recently approached much nearer to the latter than to the former alternative. Apart from this exceptional circumstance, so long as liberal prizes are offered, and high prices are to be obtained, at the great cattle shows held in this country, so long will they attract numerous entries. The exhibition of live stock is both a business and an advertisement to a business. Successful breeders and graziers reap large rewards from the prize-money they obtain, and yet this is not nearly nor the chief advantage which they secure. The fame which they gain, and the showing of their excellent animals, enable them to command high prices for all the stock which they produce, and not only for those which they exhibit. Besides all this, it is necessary to take account of the numerous wealthy landowners who keep high-class cattle and sheep for pleasure as much as for profit. These explanations are sufficient to account for the apparent anomaly of prosperous agricultural shows in the midst of a period of agricultural adversity.

With respect to the attendance, which has been very numerous, the foregoing remarks do not fully explain how it is that the Agricultural Hall has been as crowded as ever, while London has seldom seemed more full of country visitors. So far as the attendance at the Hall is concerned, the increasing attractiveness of the show to Londoners might be sufficient explanation. For the rest, a few thousands, more or less, of farmers and their families would not be noticeable in our great metropolis. One would think that there cannot be nearly so many farmers now as in the good old times of successful agriculture who can afford to spend three or four days in London, perhaps with their wives and elder children. If the precise truth of the matter could be ascertained, it would probably be found that from the arable districts fewer farmers have been to London in the Cattle Show week in recent years than came formerly, but that from the breeding and dairy districts more have come than ever before. However we may regard the great show and the large attendance, it is obvious, in spite of all qualifications, that England is still a very wealthy agricultural country, and that her agriculture will take a great deal of killing. In no other country in the world could the Cattle Show of the year 1882 be approached in general excellence.

The Devons, which always stand first in order of the catalogue at Islington, were quite up to their usual high standard of merit. Mr. T. H. Risden's remarkably good and level steer won the £30 cup offered for the best of the breed. The Prince of Wales exhibited five animals in the Devon classes, and was successful in carrying off first prize in the class for cows over four years of age. Mr. Risden, however, was the most successful exhibitor of Devons; for not only did he take the breed cup for the best Devon, defeating Mr. Wortley's steer, which was the champion at Norwich, and which was bred by Mr. Risden, but he also carried off two other first prizes. The Herefords were not so good as we have seen them, though Class 7, for steers above two and not over three years of age, was a creditable one. This class contained the steer which won the cup as the best of his breed, beating Mr. Price's Birmingham Champion, which carried off the Elkington Challenge Cup for good by winning it the second time in succession. Mr. Lewis Loyd, of West Wickham, Kent, is the owner of the best Hereford in the show, which was also declared to be the best ox or steer in the show, and received the £50 cup accordingly. That Mr. Price's ox, after securing the chief honours at Birmingham, should only get a first prize in his class, shows how good the London show was, that at Birmingham having been quite up to average. The Shorthorns were numerous, and we have never seen the young classes better filled. The young steers were particularly good, several of them being remarkable specimens of early maturity. Colonel Sir R. Loyd Lindsay's steer, under two years of age, which took the first prize in a large class, is wonderfully well furnished and level for his age, and handles well too. Mr. Hugh Gorringe, of Kingston-by-Sea, who won the third prize in this class, carried off both first and second honours in the class for older steers. The first of the two animals which won these prizes, just under three years of age, is a steer of great weight and thickness, but so incompletely furnished in front that his shoulders stick out in a manner almost suggestive of deformity, while he is also light in the flank. However, as an example of beef production at an early age he had few, if any, equals in the show. In the class for older bullocks, Mr. Bruce, an Aberdeenshire breeder, carried off the first and second prizes with two excellent animals, beating a very nice one exhibited by Mr. John Baker, quite a beauty, and a very successful prize-winner, though only third this year. Last year this steer was first in his class at Islington, when he was exhibited by Mr. Wortley, while the year before he was first at Birmingham in the class for young steers. As usual, the Shorthorns were very strong in the heifer class, which on this occasion contained the champion animal of the show, a heifer

bred and exhibited by Mr. Richard Stratton, of Newport, Monmouthshire, which thus carried off, in addition to the first prize in her class, the cup for the best shorthorn, and the £50 cup for the best heifer in the show. It is remarkable that this very successful heifer (Lilian) was only highly commended at Birmingham, where Lady Maud, exhibited by her Majesty the Queen, was first. At Islington Lady Maud was passed over, and another heifer, belonging to Mr. St. John Ackers, only highly commended at Birmingham, gained the second prize, Mr. Pease's Birmingham second-prize heifer being passed over at Islington. This series of reversals of Birmingham decisions is the most remarkable of all, but not by any means the only instance. The Sussex breed was in strong force, especially in Class 17 for steers above two and under three years of age. Messrs. Agate, Vickress, and E. and A. Stanford were among the successful exhibitors. Sussex cattle are growing in favour as serviceable beef-producing animals, and their breeders show great enterprise. Suffolk and Norfolk polled cattle were not remarkable either in number or merit, while the most picturesque of all the breeds, the West Highlanders, have seldom been so badly represented. Among the latter, however, there was one animal as excellent from a butcher's point of view as he is quaint to the eye of an artist. This massive, rough-coated, long-horned ox, with quite a fashionable fringe over his forehead, was first in his class, the rest being nowhere. He won the cup for the best Scot at Birmingham; but at Islington he was beaten by Mr. Cridlan's polled ox, the Birmingham decision being reversed. Mr. Cridlan's ox is the one which won the cup as the best steer or ox at Islington last year, when he was the property of Sir W. G. Gordon-Cumming. The polled classes were, as usual, very good, though perhaps no better than we are accustomed to see them. Sir W. G. Gordon-Cumming carried off the first prize in the younger class of steers, in which her Majesty the Queen took a third prize. Mr. J. Lowthian Bell being second. Welsh and cross-bred cattle were both well represented.

The Sheep classes were nearly all well filled. Lord Walsingham won the Champion Cup with a pen of Southdowns. The Prince of Wales showed three pens of the same breed. One of the most remarkable exhibits in the sheep classes was a pen of Hampshire Down lambs, which obtained the first prize in a very good and large class. These lambs, though only ten months old, averaged a little over 2 cwt. each, live weight, and, as tested by one of the lot from which they were taken, they would weigh about 160 lb. each, dead weight. They were bred and exhibited by Mr. William Parsons, of West Stratton, Micheldever, Hants. Such a weight for age has rarely been equalled. The show of Pigs was particularly good, the black breeds being especially above their usual excellence. Three new classes, for "any distinct or cross breed," were not well filled.

There was the usual large and varied display of implements, among which we did not notice many important novelties, though various improvements in implements and machines of proved value were to be seen. The Prince of Wales visited the Show on Monday afternoon, and showed great interest in the cattle and sheep.

The annual meeting of the Smithfield Club was held on Tuesday at the Agricultural Hall—Mr. J. Walter, M.P., president, in the chair. The report stated that the Prince of Wales has consented to act as president for 1883, and that the Duke of Edinburgh has been elected a member. Their Royal Highnesses were elected vice-presidents of the club. Sir Brandreth Gibbs was, for the fortieth time, elected honorary secretary.

THE BIRMINGHAM FAT CATTLE SHOW.

The annual show of cattle and other agricultural stock at Bingley Hall, Birmingham, closed on Thursday last week.

"Fat cattle, sheep, pigs, roots, corn, implements, poultry, and pigeons," are the stated objects of exhibition. The pecuniary returns fall somewhat below those of last year, but are, with that exception, the largest since 1878. The total number of admissions on the four days was 50,226, as compared with 55,361 last year and 47,321 in 1880; and the total receipts were £1665, as compared with £1815 and £1628 in the two previous years respectively. The total cattle sales were £2023. Our Artist who was there has sketched a few characteristic and amusing incidents that he witnessed among the diverse classes of visitors. Like the Poet Laureate, he presents his idea of the (Midland) Farmer, "Old Style and New Style;" or, as he puts it, "Past and Present." It is satisfactory to perceive that, in spite of the alleged general bankruptcy of English agriculture, they can still enjoy an hour's comfort at the Stork Hotel. The question of "Extraordinary Tithes," now in dispute between certain of the beneficed clergy and some occupiers of land, is understood to be less urgent in the Midlands than in Kent. All farmers, and many townsfolk besides, in most parts of England, take a real interest, as these Sketches will show, in the merits of such fine specimens of skilful breeding, and of the grandest bovine, ovine, and porcine developments of living flesh, destined for human consumption. The prize long-horned steer, the prize Cotswole ewe, the prize fat pig and sow, which figure in the middle of our page of Sketches, had crowds of sincere admirers at Bingley Hall. We notice also the shorthorn heifer Lady Maud, belonging to her Majesty the Queen, from the Prince Consort's Shaw Farm in Windsor Park. The weighing of a prize turkey in a cage, the inspection of Swede turnips, and other operations needful for the judges' verdict, which would be announced by telegraph to the prize-winners at their distant rural abodes, will be observed among the subjects of our Artist's pencil.

During the past week, at the city of York, was opened the annual show of the Yorkshire Agricultural Society. The entries numbered 856, being about the same as in previous years, and the quality was exceptionally good. Her Majesty was one of the principal exhibitors, and took the first prize, and a challenge cup of £20 in the class for polled cow and heifer, and was also highly commended in the class for best cross-bred cow of any age. In the other cattle classes, the Earl of Zetland, the Earl of Faversham, and other well-known breeders, were successful exhibitors.

At a meeting of the Farmers' Club, held on Monday evening at the Inns of Court Hotel, a discussion of a paper by Mr. Druce on farm tenancies was resumed from the previous meeting. Several gentlemen addressed themselves to the subject; the general feeling being in favour of the views expressed by Mr. Druce, who had urged a limitation of the law of distress and other legislative changes.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that there were in the third week of November 93,541 paupers, of whom 53,373 were indoor and 40,168 outdoor. This is an increase of 1750 as compared with the corresponding period of 1881. On the last day of the third week in November 818 vagrants were relieved, of whom 592 were men, 189 women, and 37 children under sixteen years of age.



OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE: ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN.

CITY ECHOES.

WEDNESDAY.

The stock and share markets have, as a whole, maintained the improved tone they had begun to manifest when I last wrote. This good tendency, which encountered a temporary check owing to a threatened drain of gold to New York, and to a resumption, although on a small scale, of Paris selling, may be traced in large measure to the smaller dimensions of the speculative account, as disclosed at the last settlement, and to the improved political outlook. The Queen's Speech at the prorogation of Parliament referred in terms, the sincerity of which there is no mistaking, to our "relations of cordial amity" with foreign Powers; and coupled, as that statement was, with an allusion to our "enhanced obligations" in Egypt, and our "duty" to foster the "prudent development" of the institutions of that country, little room is left for doubt that a friendly understanding has already been come to regarding the important part England is about to play in Egypt, untrammelled by external interference. This has created a favourable impression in all circles, more particularly as the Speech has elicited a friendly echo in the French press. Still more recently the disposal of the Arabi trial has given renewed strength to Egyptian securities, and has besides imparted a stronger tone to most classes of Stock Exchange business.

The announcement has been made that the full dividend of 6 per cent for the past financial year will be paid on the Preference Stock of the Erie Railway Company. The surplus, after such payment, would be sufficient, as I formerly pointed out, to enable a distribution of 4 to 1 dollar on the ordinary shares; but no division is, of course, to be looked for. It may be mentioned that, although the Preference dividend was paid last year, it was "passed" in 1879 and 1880, in spite of the net earnings having amply warranted its payment. Whether the board can be made to pay these back dividends will depend on the result of a pending suit; but until the decision is given the company will doubtless be barred from dividing any surplus with the ordinary shareholders.

The Grand Trunk of Canada Railway Company has declared the full dividend on the Second Preference from Jan. 1 to Aug. 11 (the date of the fusion with the Great Western). From the latter point a new career is opened to the combined undertaking, and it must be confessed that, so far, the alliance has proved extremely promising. The increase in joint earnings amount, so far, to £140,000, and it is estimated that this augmentation has been earned at a cost of less than 33 per cent, while a calculation, which I do not consider over-sanguine, fixes the future cost of the increased revenue at 25 per cent. So far the joint undertakings have been taking a gross £92,000 per week. During the last fourteen weeks of 1881, the combined average was £70,000, and should the recent rate of expansion be maintained—which it may not be over-sanguine to anticipate—an average increase of £20,000 per week would be netted. A substantial deduction from this would still leave the Third Preference Stock amply provided for, and give something for the ordinary, assuming the working expenses to be kept down.

The shareholders in the Brush Electric Light Company have been a good deal startled by a call of £3 on the £4 paid shares, payable in instalments of £1 per share at intervals of one month, beginning on Jan. 1. Seeing how short a time has elapsed since a return of capital was made from the proceeds of sales of concessions, the shareholders have much reason for the surprise, not to say chagrin, they have evinced. The new money is said to be required to meet the cost of new works, machinery, and manufacture of stock. It is understood, however, that much of the outlay on these matters has already been met out of revenue, and that the call now made is to replace the sums thus disbursed. The whole affair is so odd that an explanation will be awaited with a good deal of interest.

The story of the Lion Fire Insurance Company, Limited, as told at the special meeting on Monday, is not calculated to promote confidence in Anglo-French combinations. It was, in 1879, started as the Anglo-French Fire Insurance Company, and towards the close of that year was re-registered under its present title. The board included, and still does include, some first-class men, such as Mr. Forbes, of the Chatham and District Railways, and Mr. Allport, of the Midland Railway. For the first year (1880) there was a profit of £41,749, which was, happily, carried forward, for 1881 resulted in a loss of £38,459. We may be sure that the current year is no better, and hence the call upon the shareholders and the desire to sever from the French business. It was pointed out as justifying the board in their plans that the business in France was being conducted at a loss of 72 per cent, while that in England was running at loss of but 9 per cent. In America and most parts of Europe the English companies have so far this year had to pay out for claims more than they have received in premiums.

Among recent publications of value to those who are concerned in the topics falling under notice in this column is "Fenn on the Funds," a work of such long-established reputation that it may be said to (by its successive issues) reflect the origin and growth of national finance. The present edition amounts practically to a new work, since it has been entirely rewritten, and now stands without an equal as a compendium of information regarding the finances of the several nations of the world. Editorially it is the product of Mr. R. L. Nash, and it is published now, as from the beginning, by Mr. Ellingham Wilson. T. S.

The Commission for the Dublin Winter Assizes was opened on Monday before Mr. Justice O'Brien, who, in charging the grand jury, expressed regret at the grave cases coming before them. Referring to recent crimes, he said that decay was silently but speedily prevailing every interest. Every person who could carry his fortune with him was fleeing from the city as from a place infected. Matthew Heffernan was sentenced to eighteen months', and John Heffernan and Thomas Brady to twelve months' imprisonment for attacking and wounding a bailiff.—When the proceedings against Mr. Davitt, Mr. Healy, M.P., and Mr. Quinn for making inflammatory speeches were about to be commenced in the Queen's Bench, Dublin, on Tuesday, Mr. Davitt asked for an adjournment, and, no objection being offered on the part of the Crown, the case was postponed for ten days.—The Dublin Grand Jury on Tuesday found true bills against Delaney for endeavouring to shoot Judge Lawson, against the men accused of shooting Constable Cox, and against those charged with the Lough Mask murders.

The *World* Christmas Number is one of the most readable to be found on the railway bookstalls. Edited by so deft a writer as Mr. Edmund Yates, himself a novelist of repute, this collection of bright fiction and light badinage—contributed by Mr. H. D. Traill, Mrs. Forrester, Mr. Julian Hawthorne, Mr. T. H. S. Escott, and other practised writers—may be depended on to make a journey pass pleasantly. The skill of Mr. Harry Furniss in portraiture is happily shown in the tinted supplement depicting the "lions" of the day at "The Private View."

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, Dec. 5.

The Parisians are a wonderfully imaginative people. M. Gambetta wounded himself in the hand while loading a revolver, and in this simple accident the public saw successively, in the course of the week, an attempted suicide, a mysterious duel, an attempted assassination, and a woman's vengeance! M. Gambetta is now recovering rapidly, and the story of his wound, together with the stories of the Campenon plot, will soon go to join the old moon in the limbo of oblivion. The same, too, will be the destiny of the Andrieux affair, which finally led to a duel last Friday. M. Andrieux, it will be remembered, formerly Ambassador of France at the Court of Spain, recently offended the friends of Gambetta by speaking in the Chamber against religious intolerance. In order to be revenged, the Gambettists got up a strange story accusing M. Andrieux of having assumed the decoration of the Legion of Honour before it had been given to him. The accusation was true; only, in making it, M. Ch. Laurent, of *Le France*, went beyond certain limits, and therefore M. Andrieux challenged him, and wounded him in the cheek; and so honour was satisfied. These incidents and further details about M. Léon Say's campaign against the finances of the State, in favour, of course, of the Orleanist party, have been the chief topics of the gossip of the week. In the Chamber a fresh report on the Budget has been made, but the deficit still remains alarming. It is expected that the Right of the House will refuse, on principle, to vote the Budget.

The visit of the delegates of the English Trades' Unions has attracted considerable attention, and, although the Trades' Unions perhaps made a mistake in putting themselves in the hands of the Socialist Revolutionary party, their delegates have everywhere made a very favourable impression. The newspapers hold them up as models to the French workmen, who complicate their efforts at social reform by wild political agitation. The English delegates visited M. Léon Say, Victor Hugo, Madame Adam, M. de Lesseps, and President Grévy. M. Grévy was the only man who made any truly sensible remarks. He told the delegates that, while he was very happy to see them, he did not comprehend the utility of this visit. France was by no means opposed to the Channel Tunnel; they should therefore agitate in England rather than here; but, after all, England was the best judge of her interests; and if she did not wish to have the tunnel made, France had certainly nothing to say in the matter.

Although it is scarcely truly fashionable, according to some authorities, to be in Paris before the month of January, town is fairly full. To-night the Comédie Française resumes its fashionable "Tuesdays," to which the "swells" subscribe as they subscribe to the "Fridays" at the Opera. On these two evenings the Français and the Opéra become a common salon for Parisian society; a mixed society, it must be admitted, in which finance has perhaps the strongest battalions. The other theatres just now get a large share of fashionable patronage. Octave Feuillet's *Roman Parisien* has proved an immense success at the Gymnase. The author's 12 per cent on the receipts brings him in every night between 600f. and 700f.; and, everything being considered, M. Octave Feuillet will gain by his play some 200,000f., representing the reward of a year's work. The new piece by Sardou, "Fedora" will probably be produced at the Vaudeville on Saturday. This will be the last important piece of the year. At the minor theatres the great attraction is the review of the events of the year, the nearest French equivalent to the contemporary allusions of the English pantomime. The "Revue" of the Variétés is very amusing. The authors have arranged charming or droll impersonations of all the events of the year—the fencing mania, the scholar battalions, Halévy's successful novel, "L'Abbé Constantin," the Coquelin-Mayer affair, the wrestlers, the crowning of the Arc de Triomphe, and the Hungarian beauty prize, represented by the young lady who actually won the palm, &c. Other signs of the approach of the festive season are the commencement of the masked balls at the public dancing-saloons, the exceptional brilliancy of the toy-shops, and the amusing variety of the windows of the half-dozen specialists who have the monopoly of that peculiarly Parisian bauble, *bombons*.

The Union Générale is once more to occupy public attention. This week MM. Bontoux and Feder, the administrators of the company, will be tried on the charge of having infringed a law of 1803, which punishes speculators who have resorted to improper means for producing a rise or fall in the price of merchandise, &c., by extension of stocks, and of having furthermore infringed a law of 1867, which declares illegal the purchase by a financial company of its own stock with a view to speculation and to promising fictitious dividends. If MM. Bontoux and Feder cannot prove their innocence they will be condemned to at least one year's imprisonment. The case is one of great interest from a commercial and economical point of view, and it will be pleaded in full by lawyers of the highest repute, such as the Senator Allou.

News notes. The Court of Appeal has confirmed the original judgment in the Chaulnes-Chevreuse case, and declared, in very severe terms, the young Duchesse de Chaulnes to be an unfit person to bring up her own children. The children will therefore remain in the keeping of the Duchesse de Chevreuse.—The contract for the demolition of the Tuilleries has been bought by M. Achille Picart, the "demolisher" of the buildings of the Exhibition of 1878, for 32,300f. Certain fragments of the pavilion of Philibert Delorme will be preserved by the State. All the existing ruins are to be cleared away within eight months. Tourists will please take notice.—Last Wednesday the Municipal Council presented to the explorer, M. de Brazza, a gold medal in the name of the city of Paris.—M. Paul Féval, the celebrated novelist and dramatist, has been struck with paralysis. M. Féval recently lost all his fortune in bad investments. The press, in order to secure him from poverty, is organising an extraordinary benefit performance, to take place at the Vaudeville next week.—The Seine continues to rise, and the floods are doing immense damage in the environs of Paris, particularly at Ivry, Alfort, and Charenton. The wine market at Bercy is flooded, and all the cellars along the lower quays of Paris, including those of the Palais de Justice and of the Chamber of Deputies. A public subscription is to be opened for the relief of the sufferers in the environs.

T. C.

Messrs. De la Rue and Co. have brought out an ingenious pocket-pen the "Anti-Stylograph," invented by Mr. T. A. Pearson, Professor of Applied Mechanics at the Royal Naval College. It combines the ink reservoir of the stylographic pen with a modification of the ordinary pen-nib, which can be detached and replaced at pleasure by one suited to the writer's hand. The first nib we tried gave way after a day's trial, through some misadventure or rough handling, but its successor works admirably. By means of this invention the writer can preserve the distinctive features of his handwriting; and, what is of no small importance, the pen writes freely with any good ordinary ink. It will be found of special utility to journalists and literary men.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

SPAIN.

The new Session of the Cortes was opened on Monday afternoon by Royal decree. There being no Speech from the Throne, the sitting was of an entirely formal character. The House elected its President and Vice-Presidents. The result is regarded as a triumph for the Government, Señor Posada Herrera having been re-elected President by 223 votes to 85.

ITALY.

One of the recently-elected deputies, Signor Falleroni, was on Thursday week forcibly ejected from the Chamber because he refused to take the oath, and declined—having, as he said, been sent there by the people—to leave unless under compulsion. Not long ago Signor Falleroni was imprisoned for nine months for having issued a placard denouncing the "Austrian Colonel," meaning King Humbert.

GERMANY.

The Crown Prince Rudolph of Austria arrived at Berlin on Thursday week, being invited to join the Court hunting party, at Letzlingen, and was received with much distinction.

Prince Bismarck arrived at Berlin on Sunday, in a very satisfactory state of health. On Monday he had a conference of an hour's duration with the Emperor.

The Imperial Parliament reassembled on Thursday week. After a long debate, the House, by 153 votes to 119, rejected a motion allowing members of the representative Committee in Alsace-Lorraine, in certain cases, to read their speeches in German or to speak them in French.

Yesterday week, in the Lower House of the Prussian Diet, the Minister of the Interior stated that the damage done by the recent overflow of the Rhine and its tributaries could not be repaired without the assistance of the State. The Emperor had been asked to sanction the appropriation of 500,000 marks from Government funds, and additional assistance would be granted by the Diet when the requirements of the case were fully known. The Empress, writing from Coblenz, has appealed to the National Ladies' Society of Germany for help for the sufferers; and the latter had just prepared an appeal to the nation when the Royal missive was received. Coblenz, Düsseldorf, and Cologne have suffered most severely.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

In the Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath on Tuesday the Minister of Finance submitted the Budget for 1883, showing a deficit of 31,600,000 fl., being 7,100,000 fl. less than the deficit of 1882. He showed that there was a considerable improvement in the revenue and in the trade of the country, while the Government had been able to pay off considerable amounts of uncovered credits. The statement of the Minister was well received.

The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet on Saturday last adopted the Budget by a large majority. In Sunday's sitting of the Lower House M. Tisza, the Premier, in reply to a question regarding the incorporation of the island of Adorkate, in the Danube, with Hungary, said that this would be settled together with other international questions.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor and Empress arrived at St. Petersburg on Sunday. His Majesty inspected the Semenoff Regiment of the Guards; and a luncheon was given at the Onitschhoff Palace, to which the officers of the regiment were invited.

The Council of the St. Petersburg University have expelled the ringleaders in the recent disturbances.

TURKEY.

The Sultan has once more changed his advisers. Last week Said Pacha was his trusted counsellor. Then Vefik Pasha ousted him and took his place. Now the star of Said is again in the ascendant. Said Pasha has issued a circular to the governors of provinces announcing his appointment and pointing out the necessity for reforms.

Marshal Fuad Pasha has been acquitted of the charges made against him and liberated.

EGYPT.

The trial of Arabi has come to a close unexpectedly. It began and ended on Sunday. Only two charges were made against him—first, that he had rebelled; and second, that he, in contravention of the Khedive's orders, refused to disband the army. On the advice of his counsel, Arabi pleaded guilty, and sentence of death was pronounced; but this was commuted by Tewfik to banishment from Egypt.

AMERICA.

The United States Congress was opened on Monday. The Presidential Message describes the intercourse with foreign Powers as most friendly. Mr. Folger, Secretary to the Treasury of the United States, has made a report, in which he recommends the remission of internal taxes upon everything except spirits, tobacco, and fermented liquors, and substantial reductions of the tariff on imports, especially sugar, molasses, wine, wool, iron, steel, silks, and cotton. The annual report of the Treasurer shows that the revenue for the year was forty-two millions of dollars in excess of that of the previous year, while the expenditure showed a decrease of three millions. The National Debt had been reduced by one hundred and sixty-six millions of dollars.

Mr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has resigned the chair of anatomy in the medical school of Harvard University, which he held for thirty-five years.

A schooner has been wrecked on Lake Ontario and nine persons drowned. On Lake Michigan a steam-boat has been burned, causing the death of thirteen persons.

CANADA.

Returning from British Columbia, the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise spent a day in San Francisco, where they had a brilliant reception. They left for Portland, in Oregon; and were to start on Wednesday on their return to Canada. The health of her Royal Highness has greatly benefited by the trip to the West Coast.

The Quebec Legislature will meet on Jan. 18. Mr. Aikins has been sworn in as Lieutenant-Governor of Manitoba.

AUSTRALIA.

The Agent-General for the colony of Victoria has received a telegraphic despatch from the Hon. Sir Bryan O'Loughlin, Bart., Treasurer of the colony, stating that the Colonial Parliament has passed an Act giving the option to debenture-holders in the forthcoming four million loan to obtain stock inscribed in London in exchange for such debentures.

The Queen has approved of the appointment of F. Napier Broome, Esq., C.M.G., Colonial Secretary of Mauritius, to be Governor of Western Australia. Mr. Broome was employed as secretary to the Royal Commission on Merchant Shipping in 1873-4. In 1875 he was appointed Colonial Secretary of Natal. He was transferred to the Secretaryship of Mauritius in 1877, and served as Lieutenant-Governor of that island in 1880. He was nominated a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George in 1877.

After three days' play, the Hon. Ivo Bligh's team won a match on Monday against an eleven of Victoria by an innings and 144 runs. The Australians made 152 in their first innings and 165 in the second.

One person has been killed and fifty injured in a railway accident on the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay line.

GENERAL HOME NEWS.

The Royal Agricultural Society of Ireland decided to hold the annual show next year at Limerick.

The Duke of Devonshire, Chancellor of Cambridge University, has given £100 to the Girton College Extension Fund.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon has offered to the tenants on his English estates a lease of fourteen years, to take effect immediately, based upon their present rentals.

Mr. Algernon Egerton, the Conservative candidate, was on Saturday last returned as a member for Wigan, by a majority of six hundred and twenty-four over Mr. Wren, Liberal.

The late Dr. Peacock, so long connected as physician and lecturer with St. Thomas's Hospital, has left a bequest sufficient to establish a scholarship in the medical school, of the value of forty guineas.

The Marquis of Ripon, the Governor-General of India, who is also High Steward of Hull, has announced his intention to subscribe £250 to assist the establishment of a free public library for Hull.

The Egyptian war medal, which has been prepared for distribution with unprecedented promptitude, will, it is said, now be given out at the rate of about 3000 a week, until the full number, 30,000, have been awarded.

Last Saturday the Head Master of the King's Lynn Grammar School and Mr. E. E. Hitchcock, of Cavendish, Cambridge, were received by the Prince of Wales at Sandringham for the presentation of the gold medal for the year.

Upwards of 1100 officers and members of the corps of Commissionaires have subscribed for a testimonial to Mrs. Edward Walter, as a mark of regard to Captain E. Walter, the founder of the institution. The amount collected reaches nearly £150.

Formal possession was taken on Monday by the officials of the Hove Commissioners of the new Townhall, which, at a cost of something like £50,000, has been erected in their district. The new building will be opened with some ceremony next week. We shall give an engraving of the Townhall.

The civic authorities of Swansea have proposed to those of Cardiff that the rival claims of the two towns for the projected South Wales College should be submitted to the arbitration of the President and Vice-President of the Privy Council Committee on Education, and to two of her Majesty's Judges.

Colonel Yolland, in his report on the fire in a Pullman car, from which Dr. Arthur lost his life, condemns the rule which prevented the driver from stopping the train at once, and blames the company for not having a proper communication along the train. He also says that reading-lamps ought not to be allowed in sleeping-cars.

The Postmaster-General's attention having, it is stated, been called by a correspondent to the fact of Post Office officials wearing the Blue Ribbon Army badge, a reply has been received to the effect that Mr. Fawcett does not question the right to wear the blue ribbon, but thinks it beneficial if it aids any person in resisting the temptation to drink.

The ship Roslin Castle, of 1170 tons, Captain Steer, chartered by Sir Saul Samuel, K.C.M.G., Agent-General for New South Wales, sailed from Plymouth for Sydney on Thursday week with 365 emigrants, under the supervision of Dr. G. S. Eadson as surgeon-superintendent, with Miss Chicken in charge of the single women.

The Victoria (Philosophical) Institute began its new session on Monday evening with a paper by Dr. Millar on the references to the antediluvian period in the cuneiform texts. A discussion ensued, in which Mr. Tomkins and other Assyriologists took part. It was announced that the Institute now numbers 995 members.

A representation of the "Ajax," as given last week at Cambridge University, was given by members of that University in the College Hall, Eton, on Monday evening. The original scenery and music were employed with excellent effect, and the performance was wholly successful. There was a large and distinguished audience.

At the invitation of the Mayor and Corporation of Colchester, the management committee of the Essex Agricultural Society have agreed to hold the annual meeting of the society for 1883 there. Mr. G. H. Errington, High Steward of the town, has again placed Lexden Park at the society's disposal. The prizes to be offered will amount to about £1600.

A numerously attended meeting of City solicitors, convened by the Law and City Courts Committee, decided on Tuesday against the final removal of the nisi prius sittings of the City of London from the Guildhall to the Royal Courts of Justice, preferring a year's experience of the new courts before coming to a decision.

A General Order has been issued by the War Office, stating that her Majesty has been pleased to command that the services of those men of the 1st Class Army Reserve who were called out on permanent service on July 25, 1882, who joined the Reserve between July 1 and Dec. 31, 1881, and who are now serving, or may hereafter arrive, in the United Kingdom, are no longer required.

Thursday week was the latest period allowed by the standing orders of Parliament in respect of which it is intended to apply for Bills or for Provisional Orders in the next Session of Parliament; and up to that evening, the number of private bills deposited at the Board of Trade was 222, as compared with 244 last year. Of these 122 seek to authorise the construction of new railways, and there are 31 tramway bills.

Sir T. Brassey, M.P., presided on Tuesday at the opening of the new premises, Hanbury House, Dorchester-place, Blandford-square, as a home for working boys. It will accommodate forty-four inmates. An influential company was present, and several speakers expressed great interest in the work done by the committee of these homes, of which there are now seven in the metropolis.

The Bishop of London, chairman of the committee of the Charitable Dinners' Society, presided on Tuesday at a meeting of the society, the object of which at present is to provide relief for the sick poor discharged from hospitals by giving them dinners at coffee-taverns, which are also in some cases sent to their homes. A special fund has also been started for giving dinners to children.

In London last week 2535 births and 1605 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 76 and the deaths 142 below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The deaths included 5 from smallpox, 76 from measles, 52 from scarlet fever, 18 from diphtheria, 14 from whooping-cough, 2 from typhus, 20 from enteric fever, and none from simple cholera.

Lord Wolseley and other officers of the Egyptian Expedition were on Monday night entertained at dinner by Sir W. Armstrong and the Institute of Civil Engineers. In replying to the toast of his health the gallant General touched upon the qualities of the Egyptian army; and in attributing our victories to the splendid superiority of the British force, he maintained that it was owing to modern reforms that the British Army was what it had proved itself to be.

In reply to a deputation from the Longfellow Memorial Committee, headed by Earl Granville, which waited upon the Dean of Westminster last week, the Dean has consented to allow a bust of Longfellow to be placed in the Abbey. He should, he said, esteem it an honour to bear his part in adding to the treasures of the Abbey a monument to one who held so marked a position among great writers, and whose pure and tender poetry had made his name as dear and as familiar in English as in Transatlantic homes.

The cloudy weather prevented the transit of Venus from being observed in London on Wednesday afternoon, and telegrams from places so remote as Guernsey and Dublin state that nothing could be seen of it in those localities. On the other hand, the Press Association's Cork correspondent telegraphs:—"The day was bright and clear, and an excellent opportunity was afforded for witnessing the transit of Venus. The planet came in contact with the sun's disc at 1 h. 36 min. (Irish time), and the phenomenon was plainly visible."

Mr. W. Spottiswoode, President of the Royal Society, gave the opening address of the session on Thursday week. Among the subjects dwelt upon were the coming transit of Venus, the comets of the year, and the progress of Meteorology. The Electric Lighting Act, he said, might have been named "An Act for the Better Appreciation of the Transformation of Force;" and he pointed out the ways in which electricity might now become the poor man's friend. In conclusion, the president announced that the Copley Medal had been awarded to Professor Arthur Cayley, F.R.S.; Royal Medals to Professor W. H. Flower, F.R.S., and Lord Rayleigh, M.A., F.R.S.; the Rumford Medal to Captain W. de Abney, R.E., F.R.S.; and the Davy Medal to D. Mendeleyeff and Lothar Meyer.

All the returns of enrolled strength, efficients and proficients, and other statistics of the Volunteer force for the official year which ended on Oct. 31, have now been received at the War Office, and though they will probably not be issued in a complete form before the beginning of next year, yet sufficient has been ascertained (the *Times* states) to indicate clearly that as far as regards mere numbers there will be a falling off of at least 5000 on the total of 208,000, which was reached last year. As regards efficiency, however, it is stated that the proportion to enrolled strength compared with the same period has vastly increased, while there are numerous other evidences, such as the general increase in the number of proficient officers and sergeants, the satisfactory result of the examination in tactics, and the reports of inspecting officers, to show the increasing vitality of the organisation.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 16.

SUNDAY, DEC. 10.

Second Sunday in Advent. Morning Lessons: Isaiah v.; I. John iii. 1-16. Evening Lessons: Isaiah xi. 1-11, or xxiv.; John xviii. 1-28. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev. W. Rogers; 3.15 p.m., Rev. Canon Liddon; 7 p.m., Rev. J. P. Young. Whitehall, 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., Rev. R. Appleton.

MONDAY, DEC. 11.

Royal Academy, 8 p.m., Professor Church on Resins. Geographical Society, 8.30 p.m. London Institution, 5 p.m., Mr. J. Cotter Morison on Thomas Carlyle.

TUESDAY, DEC. 12.

Horticultural Society, 3 p.m. Royal Academy of Music, operatic performance, 8 p.m. Photographic Society, 8 p.m. Medical and Chirurgical Society, 8.30. Civil Engineers' Institution, 8 p.m. Mr. J. Daglish on Sinking of Shafts at Marsden. New City of London Schools, to be opened by the Prince of Wales, 3.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 13.

Literary Fund, 3 p.m. Amateur Mechanical Society, 6 p.m. Analysts' Society, 8 p.m., Mr. C. T. Kingzett on Some Analyses of Asphalt Pavings, &c. Graphic Society, 8 p.m. Microscopical Society, 8 p.m.

THURSDAY, DEC. 14.

Royal Society, 4.30 p.m. Antiquaries' Society, 8.30 p.m. Royal Academy, 8 p.m., Professor Church on Varnishes. Telegraph Engineers' Society, anniversary, 8 p.m. London Mathematical Society, 8 p.m. London Institution, 7 p.m., Professor Ball on the Recent Transit of Venus.

FRIDAY, DEC. 15.

Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, 2 p.m. Liverpool Home for Aged Mariners, to be opened by the Duke of Edinburgh. Royal Academy of Music, student orchestral concert, 8 p.m.

SATURDAY, DEC. 16.

Cambridge Michaelmas Term ends. St. James's Hall, 8 p.m., "The Messiah."

Liverpool Home for Aged Men, to be opened by the Prince of Wales.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEE OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF			THERMOM.		WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum, read at 10 P.M.	Minimum, read at 10 P.M.			
Nov. 26	29.988	43°5	35°8	74	5	47.6	40°0	SW. WSW.	391	0.000
27	29.803	32°5	32°1	77	4	43°8	33°7	W.	356	0.010
28	30.088	37°6	28°4	72	4	42.5	31°8	WNW. NW.	925	0.270
29	29.718	42°4	37°9	80	10	46.3	32°0	WSW. WNW.	302	0.010
30	30.081	37°9	34°8	80	4	44.1	32°1	NNW. N.	235	0.000
Dec. 1	29.922	30°5	29°7	97	"	33.5	26°2	N.	40	0.005
2	29.933	31°0	29°9	97	10	36.5	24°8	N. S.	116	0.004

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected .. 29.827 30.022 29.702 30.071 29.953 29.953
Temperature of Air .. 43°70 40°37 44°22 40°72 31°92 28°52
Temperature of Evaporation .. 31°19 35°19 42°40 39°05 32°8 28°52
Direction of Wind .. SW. NW. NW. N. N.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 16.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1 22	1 47 2	2 23	2 3	2 30	2 45	2 50 52

RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR ABERDEEN.

The terrible disaster of Monday week, by which five passengers were killed and eleven grievously injured, was mentioned in our last. It took place on the Macduff and Turriff branch of the Great North of Scotland Railway, at a point on the line two miles from Auchterless Station, and about the same distance from Fyvie. The custom of this railway is to run mixed trains of waggons and passenger vehicles, and the train which left Macduff at 4.20—due in Aberdeen at six o'clock in the evening—was of this description, there being three waggons in front of the carriages. After leaving Auchterless the train passes through a level country for about a mile and a half. At this distance there is a level crossing called Gatehouse, from which the line rises until it reaches a bridge over the Ythan, a river about 30 feet wide. A few hundred yards further on there was a bridge across the Turriff turnpike road. It was of iron girders, with wooden crossbeams, and with no railing at the edges of it. The height of the bridge was about 18 feet from the level of the road, and its length about 40 feet. The engine and the guard's van passed over the bridge in safety; but when the three waggons were crossing the bridge gave way, and the vehicles were precipitated to the road beneath. The carriages, in which there were a number of passengers, were pitched into the chasm, piled in a heap, one of them hanging for a time on the brink, but ultimately falling on the top of the mass below. The vehicles thus thrown on the road were two third-class carriages, a van, and three waggons. The only first-class carriage in the train remained on the line, owing mainly to the fact that the carriages in front had filled up the gap. The engine remained on the rails about 200 yards forward from the bridge, but the weight of the falling waggons had pulled the tender off the line. There was a quantity of gas tar, and other combustible matter, among the contents of the waggons, and all mixed up with the passenger carriages. If the engine had fallen with them, it is probable that these inflammable materials would have taken fire; and the passengers, unable to extricate themselves, would have been burnt to death.

THE DUKE OF ST. ALBANS ON EDUCATION.

On Tuesday the Duke of St. Albans distributed the prizes to the successful scholars at the Nottingham High School. In the course of his address his Grace said that while the characters of former Englishmen—those generations who had held Europe at bay, defending their liberties; who had added India to British dominion, colonised North America, and carried British civilisation to distant Australia—were moulded by circumstances, the characters of future Englishmen, it seemed to him, would be formed by fixed rules. Modern legislation, compulsory education, unions of great trades, and easy communication must tend to keep men at one level. The circumstances of former times must have had the effect of developing characteristics and giving individuals prominence. The tendency of these later days was to raise the whole mass, but to reduce individuals to mere cogs in the social machine. Care and thought were required as to how we could best fit our young men—the future strength and wealth of England—to take their place in the world with credit to themselves, and on the solution of this question depended the future safety of the country. His Grace reminded his youthful hearers that to them, if they were spared, would be committed a share, not only of the sovereign power of this great country, but also in deciding the destinies of "regions Cæsar never knew, where his eagles never flew." Let each of them endeavour to fit himself to be a worthy atom of this great empire, which, after all, was only an item of the great human body politic. Every office and position in the country, except the Crown, was legitimately within their grasp if they had ability to secure it. Proficiency in manly games commanded the school-boy's admiration. At the University mental power gained respect, while in after-life the glitter of power, rank, and wealth gained the ascendancy. There was a further period of life which boys found it difficult to realise—in the dim distance, when memory would throw a lengthened shadow, when muscular prowess would be impossible, when human knowledge would seem imperfect, and the glamour of power, rank, and wealth would appear as vanity. He would therefore say—strive, school-boy, in your games; work, collegian, at your studies; struggle, man, for power, rank, and wealth; but through life train yourselves, especially in your school-days, to make it your second nature to act honourably, to speak truthfully, to love God, and to do your duty towards others.

Mr. John Day, of Danebury, the well-known trainer, who for some time past has been in failing health, died rather unexpectedly on Sunday afternoon.

At the time of our going to press, on Wednesday evening, the Postmaster-General was suffering from a severe attack of diphtheria; and Mr. Anthony Trollope, the novelist, was in a very critical state.

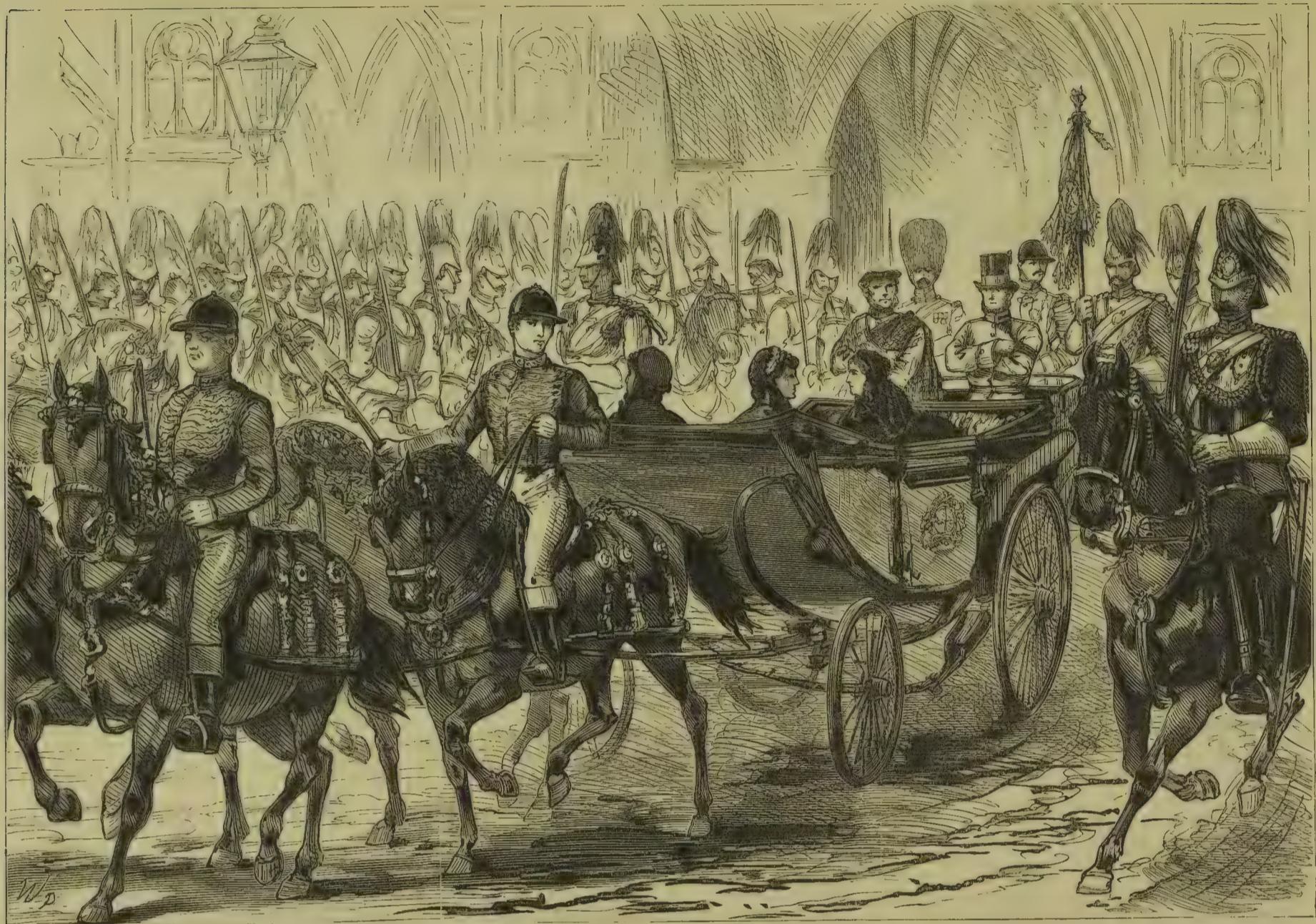
Stanford Court, Worcestershire, the seat of Sir Francis Winnington, was destroyed by fire on Tuesday night, together with most of its valuable contents, consisting of plate, pictures, manuscripts, &c.

There stands near Chiswick a red-brick village of which one of the arch-priests of aestheticism is the presiding genius. Its inhabitants are supposed to live mainly on "sweetness and light." Any curiosity that may exist as to the architectural appearance of this centre of aestheticism will be abundantly gratified by the gay, coloured views inclosed in the "Bedford Park Album."

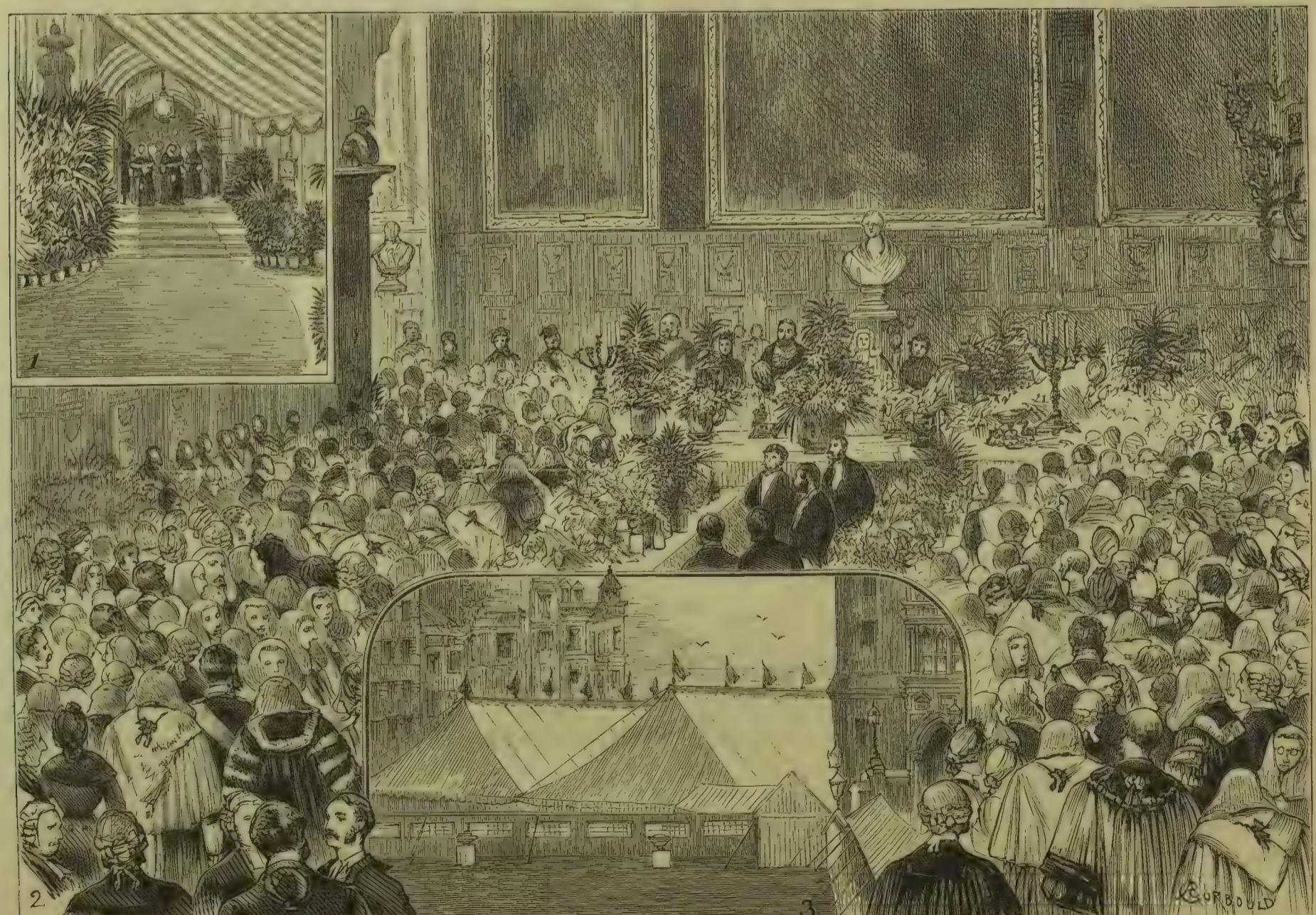
In commemoration of the completion of the fiftieth year of Mr. Gladstone's career as a member of the House of Commons, Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin have published "Jubilee Edition" of Mr. Barnett Smith's "Life of Mr. Gladstone," the entire work being issued, handsomely printed in double columns on large quarto paper and in an ornamental wrapper, at the price of one shilling. The new issue, however, is not a mere reprint, the author having furnished additional matter, bringing the narrative down to the eve of publication. This popular edition is accompanied by an excellent portrait of the Prime Minister.

A discussion took place at the meeting of the Birmingham Town Council on Tuesday on the scheme proposed by the Charity Commissioners for the management and regulation of Lench's trust, a valuable endowment in Birmingham for the support of poor women in almshouses, the income of which will shortly amount to nearly thirty thousand pounds a year. The Commissioners suggested that the residue of the income should be applied in the assignment of annual pensions for the benefit of poor residents of the borough, in accordance with a scheme to be established for the purpose.

OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.



THE QUEEN LEAVING THE COURTS AFTER THE CEREMONY.



1. Entrance to Middle Temple Hall.

2. Luncheon in Middle Temple Hall.

3. Marques in Temple Gardens.

LUNCHEON IN THE MIDDLE TEMPLE.



OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE: THE GREAT QUADRANGLE.



THE SCENE OF THE RAILWAY ACCIDENT NEAR ABERDEEN.

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS.

The pleasant, careless, innocent wanton Muse of Greek Theocritus and Anacreon found her way, in the seventeenth Christian century, into the body of Robert Herrick, a Devonshire country clergyman, Vicar of Dean Prior, near Totnes. She is still fresh and lively, in a charming volume newly published by Messrs. Sampson, Low, and Co., of Fleet-street, *Selections from the Poetry of Robert Herrick* (the "Hesperides" and "Noble Numbers"), with Drawings by Edwin A. Abbey. There are primroses on the cover of this book, and plenty of the sweet flowers of spring and summer—with a few "roses" that are, it must be owned, anything but "prim"—among its literary contents, with which most students of the old English authors will have long since become familiar. The reverend gentleman was no Puritan, nor was he too much of a Priest, but a lover of all that Nature has made lovely, the praises of which he sang in tuneful strains; yet he could, with equal sincerity, in his occasional pious moods, join his reverend contemporary, George Herbert of Bemerton, in rapturous lyrics upon the sublime themes of their holy faith. Mr. Austin Dobson, the editor of this collection, has supplied a congenial Preface which is eloquent with feeling, and perfectly in unison with Herrick's spirit. The illustrations designed by Mr. E. A. Abbey, which are finely engraved and printed, are quaintly pretty, and characteristic of that age in points of costume, as well as of English rural and domestic life. As a lyric poet, in our judgment, Robert Herrick is little inferior to Robert Burns, and has far more genuine inspiration than Horace. Finally, after all,

"To his book's end, this last line he'd have placed,—
Jocund his Muse was, but his life was chaste."

An eminent Scottish artist, Sir J. Noel Paton, R.S.A., has made a series of fifteen designs, in outline, *Compositions from Shakespeare's "Tempest,"* which are published by Mr. W. P. Nimmo, of Edinburgh. Each of the engravings is accom-

panied by the corresponding extract from that most beautiful and delightful of Shakespeare's plays. We cannot pretend to admire the drawings, which mostly display a wild huddle and scurry of superfluous figures, in attitudes of writhing contortion, besides the majestic Prospero, the gentle Miranda, the hideous Caliban, the dainty Ariel, and the shipwrecked visitors to their isle of enchantment, none of which personages here come up to our ideal. The same volume contains Sir Noel Paton's twelve designs to illustrate Shelley's fine poem of "Prometheus Unbound;" and we like these much better, as the classical theme is more adequately treated; the figure of the injured Titan has a certain grandeur, while the gods and the nymphs lack only more room for their gestures to appear dignified and graceful. On the whole, however, this is not such work as will enhance the artist's reputation, which has been sufficiently established by his paintings for many years past.

One of Shakespeare's contemporary personal acquaintances, speaking of his other writings as well as his plays, makes mention of his "Sugar'd Sonnets," which were originally published by "W. S.," as is well known, with a dedication to "Mr. W. H.," the patron at whose request, and possibly for whose private use in some affair of gallantry, they seem to have been partly composed. A selection of ten of these poems, with very original and artistic marginal illustrations, designed by Mr. Edwin J. Ellis and etched by Mr. Tristram J. Ellis, has just been brought out, "produced," says the title-page, by Messrs. Field and Tuer, of the Leadenhall Press, to whose fine typography we are likewise indebted for the volume of Herrick. The publishers of this selection of Shakespeare's Sonnets, which has a brief attendant commentary, are Messrs. H. Sotheran and Co., of the Strand.

Some very fine work of foreign designers and engravers has been devoted to the truthful representation of wild animals and woodland scenes; and Mr. Karl Bodmer, in the illustrations he has furnished to *Nature at Home*, a series of

descriptive essays translated from the French of Theophile Gautier, shows excellent work of this kind. The haunts and habits of the heron, the fox, the otter, the kingfisher, and of many beasts and birds common to France and to England, are here depicted with remarkable fidelity, and are discussed in a vein of mingled keen outward observation and thoughtful sentiment. Messrs. Bradbury, Agnew, and Co. are the publishers of this work. The "Artists' Edition," published by Messrs. H. Sotheran and Co., of Mr. J. R. Wise's noble book on *The New Forest*, with twelve etchings by Heywood Sumner, and sixty-three wood engravings, by W. J. Linton, from drawings by Walter Crane, is a valuable gift to all who cherish an affection for the scenes and historical associations of that interesting district. This volume, which is handsomely bound in thin boards of ornamental, light-coloured wood, impressed with the forms of trees and foliage, contains the historical and descriptive treatise written by Mr. Wise some twenty years ago. The pages are of large size and rough white paper, but the engravings, which are small and minutely finished, are on small pieces of paper, of a brownish tint, and pasted to the pages where they suit the text. This has a pleasing effect. There are two maps of the New Forest; and the student of local history and topography, as well as the artist and the lover of nature, will find this an interesting book.

A series of coloured plates of *Scottish Loch Scenery*, from drawings by A. F. Lydon, with descriptive notes by Thomas A. Croal, makes another book of British landscape beauties. It is published by Messrs. John Walker and Co.; and, though it has no great artistic value, may command success for the sake of its popular subject. The drawing of these views is carefully done, but there is a certain unreality in the colouring. The text is neatly written.

At the first meeting of the new London School Board yesterday week, Mr. E. N. Buxton was re-elected Chairman and Mr. Freeman Vice-Chairman.

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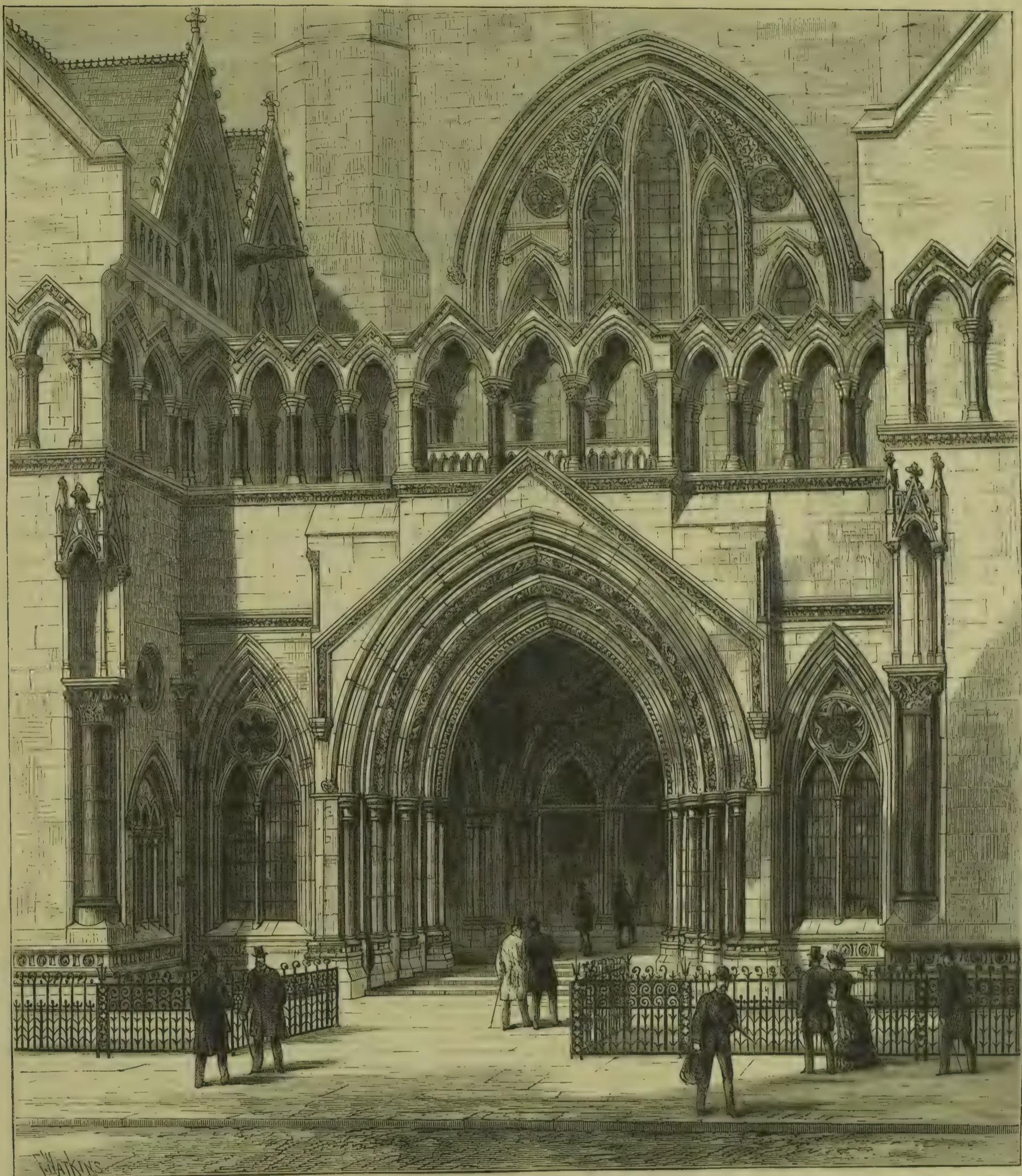
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THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE: THE PRINCIPAL ENTRANCE FROM THE STRAND.

THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.

The grand new Gothic building at the Temple Bar end of the Strand was first styled "the Royal Palace of Justice,"—in the Act of Parliament for its erection; but just as "the Palace of Westminster" is commonly called "the Houses of Parliament," we may expect that the ordinary designation of this magnificent pile will be either "the Royal Courts of Justice," or popularly, "the New Law Courts." They are to supersede, henceforth, for the use of the English Judicature, which now bears the collective title of "the High Court of Justice," all the buildings adjoining Westminster Hall, those in Lincoln's-Inn, and those annexed to Guildhall in the City, which have been occupied hitherto by the several Divisions of Common Law and Equity Jurisdiction.

The locality of the New Law Courts is still in the City of Westminster; the ancient and glorious name of which is venerably associated, by past centuries of national history, as well with the chief administration of Law and Justice, as with that of Government and Legislation for this realm. An area of seven acres, bounded south by the Strand; north by Carey-street, Lincoln's-Inn-Fields; east by Bell-yard, at Temple

Bar; and west by Clement's-Inn, and by the remaining part of Clement's-Inn-lane to Clare-Market (which must soon be cleared away), comprises the space now occupied by the precincts of the Judiciary Palace. The buildings themselves cover, in the aggregate, not less than five acres of ground.

The design of the late eminent architect, Mr. George Edmund Street, R.A., was selected from others shown in competition, in 1872, when we published a View of the proposed Strand front elevation. Several years were spent in clearing the site, which was previously covered with a labyrinth of wretched courts and alleys, some Sketches of which, and some notices of their historical antiquities—especially their associations with the haunts of notable English men of letters in the time of the "Tatler" and "Spectator"—appeared in this Journal. The contract for the new buildings was taken by Messrs. Joseph Bull and Sons, of Southampton, for £700,000, which did not, of course, include the work of clearing the site. This contract was signed in February, 1874. The buildings were to have been completed in August, 1880; but the work suffered much delay from severe winters, and from a strike of the stonemasons in 1877, which made it necessary to employ French, German, Italian, and other foreign

workmen from Sept. 24 to December of that year. We then gave some Illustrations of the arrangements made for their accommodation and protection, sleeping and eating on the premises. Since the death of the late Mr. Street, R.A., on Dec. 18 last year, his son, Mr. Arthur Street, has acted as the architect, in conjunction with Mr. Arthur Blomfield. The Chief Clerk of the Works, till his death at midsummer, 1878, was the late Mr. A. W. Colling, who assisted in preparing the whole of the contract drawings, 249 in number. Since his death the joint clerks of the works have been Mr. Samuel Wallace and Mr. Edward Moore; the latter has been engaged there since the building commenced, and has, in addition to being a general clerk of the works, superintended the warming and ventilating arrangements.

The Strand front, and the west elevation, are constructed wholly of Portland stone; so is the main Carey-street front; but the east side, overlooking Bell-yard, is of fine red brick-work, richly and prodigally relieved with stone. The interior sides of the quadrangle between the separate ranges of building is also of red-faced brick. All the bricks used were made by the contractors, at Southampton, to the architect's order, of a special size and shape, 10 in. by 5 in. and 2½ in. thick, work-

ing four courses of bricks to the foot. Thirty-five million bricks, and a million cubic feet of brown stone, are put together in these buildings. The patent selenite lime was used both for all the brickwork and for the internal plastering, except in the Judges' Rooms and principal staircases, where Keen's cement was used. We now proceed to describe the exterior of the building generally, referring to the larger Views engraved for this Number of our Journal.

The Strand front is a complex and elaborate architectural composition of manifold Gothic features, partaking of the ecclesiastical, the baronial, and the palatial characteristics, here of the Plantagenet, there of the Tudor or the Elizabethan period, as though it were intended to symbolise the different ages of English history, from the time of Magna Charta to the sixteenth century, which have witnessed successive phases in the development of the monarchy, the consolidation of legal authority, overruling the excesses of feudalism, vindicating the prerogative of the Crown, repressing the interference of the Papacy, assuring the independence of this realm. All this is what the thoughtful historical student can see in Mr. Street's most instructive and interesting design, which is a significant commentary, if stone walls can speak, upon the reigns of the Kings and Queens of England, and upon the political and social progress of the English nation, let us say, during the times so dramatically revived for us by Shakespeare's series of historical plays. From a still earlier date, from the thirteenth century onward, the stamps of the times of our Henrys and Edwards, in their regal stateliness; with the great Earls, Dukes, Regents, and King-makers, ~~were~~ like vassals; and with the great political prelates, who were also great lawyers and statesmen, the Bishops, Archbishops, and Cardinals who were Lord Chancellors (see the cathedral-like window); and with the King's Justices of different Courts, originally belonging to the Royal Household; and with the strong infusion of foreign Court influences, from France or Anjou, denoted by some of the forms of those baronial towers, by their conical roofs and their jutting circular turrets, may be seen in the mingled configuration of this new Palace of English Laws. We are content, in exchange for such a truthful record, to acknowledge that, from a purely artistic point of view, as the Art Critics declare, Mr. Street's composition has its faults; we confess their existence. The architectural effect in general is not nearly so fine as that of the Palace of Westminster, which is a pure idealisation of the Tudor type, having no properly historical character. There are provincial townhalls and Assize Courts of the Gothic style which claim more grandeur and beauty than this new structure. But this one has a noble story to tell; and the story is forcibly and faithfully told, thereby constituting a worthy monument of national history, as studied and cherished by the present generation.

The north front, in Carey-street, has a stately but agreeable appearance, showing more of the distribution of the main blocks of building, with regard to the accommodation of the different Courts and their offices. We consider the central portion of the north front, opposite Serle-street, to be really beautiful in itself; but the intelligibility of this entire front is a practical merit. The entrance on this side will be much frequented by professional men from their chambers in and about Lincoln's-Inn. The west side, which has no public entrance, and which overlooks a plot of ground as yet only partially thrown open, presents an elevation of no well-defined plan or distinct character, but the part near the Strand has a pleasing effect. The east side, from Carey-street, terminating with the clock-tower at Temple Bar, has a bizarre singularity of aspect which provoked much remark when it first became visible, long before the other portions of the building rose to view. It may fairly be considered that the entire eastern block, with the great tower at Temple Bar, forms a different building; and the incongruity of its manifold intermixture of red brick with brown stone, in the striped and mottled face overlooking Bell-yard, must not affect our judgment of the main edifice. There is plenty of variety in this vast and complex structure. The architect, it must be remembered, had to solve a most difficult problem in the arrangement of the interior, or rather the combination of several distinct interiors, with their respective systems of large and small apartments, passages, and staircases. A more arduous task has seldom been undertaken, and has never been more skilfully accomplished. This will be evident from an inspection of the interior, as now ready for occupation, taking notice of the requirements of the different Courts, with the means of access to them, and the numerous subordinate offices and chambers for different classes of persons connected with these Courts. The eastern block or wing, on the Carey-street side, is not the principal seat of any Court or judicial tribunal, but consists entirely of chambers for officers of the Courts, Masters in Chancery, Chief Clerks, Registrars, Accountants, and a Branch Bank of England; with those to whom solicitors have to apply for all manner of legal formalities in the conduct of a suit at common law or equity, filing documents, sealing writs, entering an appearance, amending pleas, obtaining leave or order for this, that, and the other; even for procuring stamped paper. These offices have been carried on in the new building for two years past, and the dark corridors and the convenient waiting-rooms have been daily visited by hundreds of clerks of London solicitors, intent on such details of business, which neither the clients who pay their costs, nor anybody out of the profession, can possibly understand.

The south front, altogether, extends a length of 514 ft. along the Strand; the north front, in Carey-street, has a length of just 500 ft.; the length of the east front, in Bell-yard, is 480 ft. The south-east clock tower, at Temple Bar, rises to a height of 160 ft.; but the general height of the eastern block is 72 ft., not inclusive of the high sloping roof. The flèche or spire, above the roof of the Central Hall, is of lead, constructed by Messrs. Dent and Hillier, and is 225 ft. high.

The whole Palace of Justice, now consisting of the eastern block and the main block, contains a grand Central Hall, nineteen halls for the Courts, and nearly 750 numbered rooms, of which some three hundred are in the east block. The corridors have a total length of nearly two miles. The Central Hall lies in the direction north and south, its upper end to the north, in the middle of the main building. The Courts are situated mostly to the right and to the left of the Central Hall: seven on each side, besides two at each end. One of the Courts, at the north end, is larger than the others, being designed for a full Bench of the Judges sitting to hear Appeal Cases. The Bar-room facing Carey-street has been fitted up as a temporary Court, making nineteen Courts in all.

The Central Hall, where her Majesty the Queen performed the opening ceremony last Monday, has an air of ecclesiastical solemnity, resembling the nave of a grand cathedral. It is not nearly so vast as Westminster Hall, but it is 230 feet long, 48 feet wide, and 80 feet high from the floor to the apex of the ceiling. The entrance to this hall from the Strand is by a beautiful Gothic arch, supported by columns of polished red and grey granite. This archway is adorned with fine carvings. The summit of the central gable, over this grand entrance, is adorned with a figure of Christ; on the gables to the right and left are the statues of King Solomon and King Alfred. A broad flight of steps lead up to the level of the hall, 7 ft. above the Strand. A lofty vestibule, with fine columns

of polished marble, leads into the hall. The floor within is partly of mosaic pavement, of variously coloured stones laid in an elaborate design upon arches of Dennett's fireproof material; this floor has been executed by Messrs. Burke and Co., of Newman-street. Along each side of the Hall is a series of nine bays, the floor of which is laid with Sicilian marble and dark lithograph stone, relieved with cross bands of buff-coloured lithograph stone. The side walls are divided by clustered slender shafts of coloured granite. Four noble arches, with tympana, rise on each side, which are beautifully decorated with diverse carvings, all designed by Mr. Street and modelled in clay by his own hand. All the stone and wood carvings throughout the Palace were most skilfully executed by Mr. H. T. Margetson, of Chelsea, and many of them were modelled by him. The ribs of the groined ceiling are of Portland stone, filled in with Bath stone. At each end, north and south, the Hall is crossed by a transverse balcony, of polished Hopton Wood stone, the south one upheld very boldly, as it seems from below, on massive corbels resting upon columns of Purbeck marble. The arcade arches, on the east and west side, are similarly supported; the panels under these arches are formed with bands of polished Hopton Wood and Jura marble. The pillars of the north balcony are hexagonal, with twisted spiral volutes. The windows of the Hall are of Cathedral glass, slightly relieved with heraldic shields, in colour, bearing the arms of most of the Lord Chancellors since the reign of William Rufus to the present day. This part of the work has been done by Mr. James Bell, of Great Russell-street. Four broad staircases, of stone, lead up from the Central Hall to the level of the Courts, 25 ft. above the Strand.

The arrangement of separate ways of access to the Courts, for different classes of persons going thither, has been contrived with much ingenuity, and will be a great advantage to order and comfort. The staircases from the Central Hall, guarded by iron gates, each of which will have a janitor, are the witnesses' entrance to the several courts; the rooms for witnesses in waiting are level with the floor of the Hall, separate rooms for male and female witnesses. From the waiting-rooms witnesses go up by these stairs to the courts. The jury approach the scene of their duties by quite different means of access. Two entrances, one on each side, in the middle of the hall, give the jurors access to four of the Courts. The others are reached by stairs at the ends of the hall. The rooms for the accommodation of jurors, which are neatly decorated with white and blue tiles, are situated beneath the Courts. Ingenious precautions are taken to prevent the jurors from finding it necessary to pass near the witnesses, lawyers, and parties. There are small spiral inner staircases for the attendants to run up and down. The public come in from the Strand on the south and Carey-street on the north, by towers containing steps which lead to the public gallery in each court without passing through the hall. Special entrances, stairs, and corridors, more or less handsome, are provided for solicitors, barristers, and the Judges. All the entrances from the hall are closed by iron gates. At its north end, and in like manner at the south end, the end gallery leads into a transverse corridor, where barristers can pass right or left to side corridors, thus going to any point all round the Central Hall. The total length of these barristers' corridors is 872 ft., on a level with the floor of all the Courts. This will enable a barrister to pass with great ease from one Court to another, to open a case in the first Court, to cross-examine a witness in a second, and then to conduct an argument before Lord Justices of Appeal in a third. The collection of the Chancery Division and Queen's Bench Courts so near together will doubtless do something towards assimilating the law and practice in these, as it will in some cases enable the same practitioners to appear in either. Beneath the barristers' corridor runs that of the solicitors, with ready means of communication between the two. The Judges have their separate passages, approached from their carriage entrances by grand oak staircases, and have only to cross a gallery reserved for them in order to pass from their private rooms to their own Court. Rooms similarly situated behind the Bench are assigned to their registrars and other officers.

The Courts themselves, after all, must be of the greatest importance, for it is there, with the Judges on the Bench, that the work of dispensing Law and Justice will be finally performed.

Ten of the Courts surrounding the Central Hall—namely, those at the south end and at the east side—are for the Common Law jurisdiction; six other Courts, of which three are situated on the west side, two at the north end, and one to the east, are for the Chancery or Equity business. The Admiralty Court, and that of Probate and Divorce, are on the west side. The average size of the Courts is about 38 ft. by 32 ft., but the Vice-Chancellor's Appeal Court measures 50 ft. by 43 ft. In some of the Courts about forty spectators only will be able to find room; in the largest of them not more than 100 seats are provided; and, as in all cases the public will be kept from the ground floor, and there is a special entrance to their gallery, admission henceforth will be strictly regulated by the capacity of the accommodation; so that no crowds can interfere with the free ingress and egress of persons who come to the courts on business. The gallery is well situated, overhead, and facing the Bench. The Courts are not built closely adjacent to one another, but each is a separate building between the Central Hall on the one side and the outer shell of the Palace on the other. The outer shell is that in which the Judges' rooms and those of their officers are situated. The spaces for light and air between each Court are lined with glazed tiles. The interior of each Court is fitted with wainscot oak, some by Messrs. Jackson and Graham, some by Mr. Lovett, of Wolverhampton, and some by the general contractor. The walls are panelled with oak to the height of 14 ft. Some of the Courts are provided with jury-boxes, and each of these has a special gallery, just above the jury-box, for jurors in waiting. Each Court has a public gallery of wood, each has commodious seats for the associates and for solicitors, as well as for the Bar. The seats for the counsel are contrived to fold up, and they have desks made to slide back. The Judges' seats are, of course, raised. In the Courts special places are assigned for shorthand writers, and great pains are taken to ensure that they shall be within hearing of the witnesses. Each Court is provided with book-shelves, which give promise of that indispensable aid to the administration of justice, a library.

It is to be hoped that the acoustic qualities of the Courts are good. The distance of the bench from the bar is usually considerable, and the difficulty often felt at present by advocates in catching judicial utterances during the arguments ought to be diminished. There is an alcove of oak behind and above the bench, which may assist the voice. The Courts are lighted by windows, but in some cases from the top. The warming and ventilating arrangements will be found comfortable enough.

For the special accommodation of the Judges, there are four entrances to the Palace from outside; two in Carey-street, one at the east side, and one at the west side. The ground on the west side is to be laid down with turf, and a few trees may be planted there. The Judges' carriage entrance will be on this side, whence a magnificent staircase, panelled in wainscot, will bring them directly to their own

corridor. There are twenty-four Judges' Rooms, handsomely fitted up; the floors of wainscot oak, with a margin of mosaic pavement 18 in. wide all round. These rooms, and those of the Judges' clerks, have been furnished by Messrs. Gillow, and by Messrs. Collinson and Lock. On the east side of the building, there is another handsome entrance, with a marble staircase, for the Judges to come in; and on the north side, Carey-street being at a much higher level, they have only sixteen steps to ascend. The barristers' entrance in Carey-street has only eight steps leading to the level of the floor of the Courts.

Next to the Judges, indeed, the just consideration of the architect has been given to the convenience of barristers; and their dignity has been consulted in the style of apartments and passages designed for their exclusive use. The Bar Library, on the north side, is a fine room, 62 ft. 6 in. long, and 32 ft. 6 in. wide, the floor and ceiling of oak; it is reached by a staircase direct from the barristers' corridor, as well as their robing and retiring rooms, and their refreshment-room. Small consultation-rooms are provided adjoining the corridor, which has also convenient window-seats for less private conversation. There is another corridor, by which solicitors may get ready access to all the Courts.

We have endeavoured, upon this occasion, to describe those parts of the interior of the New Palace of Justice which were not previously opened to public view, rather than to give a complete account of the edifice. For the architectural details of the exterior, beyond what has been said of its general character, the reader may compare our Illustrations with the minute descriptive particulars, necessarily more technical, which critical writers have supplied elsewhere. Even the ground-plan of the entire Palace can hardly be made intelligible by a mere verbal explanation. It will, however, be understood that the eastern block, which was completed three years ago, is separated (except in the front) from the main block now completed, by an intervening quadrangle, or inner open court, the north and south sides of this quadrangle being closed up by the continuity of the two fronts, respectively, in Carey-street and in the Strand. But this feature of the general plan has long been obvious to everyone passing through those parts of the New Law Courts' premises which were free to the public. We believe that, on the whole, Mr. Street's great work cannot fail to win the approval, in times to come, as well as among the contemporaries who lament his recent death, of all reasonable practical men competent to judge of the requirements of a public building. Its most serious practical defect is the sad want of daylight in the lower corridors of the eastern part, and likewise, perhaps, in some other parts which will now come into use. Borrowed light, from adjacent rooms to the right and to the left, is not sufficient for these corridors; and it is often difficult for persons meeting to recognise each other's faces. Where a host of solicitors and their clerks, and their clients, and the witnesses they will be trying to catch while the case is going on in Court, may be seeking one another, through this immense building, sometimes in desperate haste, the darkness of these passages will often be deplored. If some fault is to be found, therefore, with the allowance of natural light in the building, the supply of artificial warmth and the ventilation, it has been observed, merits our full approval. The machinery for these purposes is placed in the crypt beneath the Central Hall; there are six massive boilers, sending hot water through eleven miles of pipes into every part of the building; and there are coils of pipes for warming blasts of air driven through them by revolving fans, into air chambers beneath each Court. Hot or cold currents may be admitted to these at discretion, and the temperature regulated with the greatest nicety. From these chambers the air, filtering through canvas screens, passes into the Courts above, being regulated by the officers of the Courts by means of valves under their own control. Ventilation is provided for by openings in the ceilings, leading the entire length of the building. It has been calculated that these arrangements will permit of the air of each Court being renewed four times every hour, or even more frequently if required. The heating of the Courts, however, is only one part of the work to be accomplished. They are to be kept comfortably cool in summer, and for this purpose the revolving fans already referred to will also be in requisition, with jets of cold water. The warming and ventilating apparatus was constructed by Messrs. Haden and Sons, of Manchester and Trowbridge, under the superintendence of Mr. E. Moore, Clerk of the Works. The Judges' Rooms and other retiring-rooms have ordinary open fire-places. The gas-fitting work, the wrought-iron gates, and other metal-work, has been done by Messrs. J. Potter and Sons, of Oxford; the lavatory and other such fittings, by Mr. Jennings, of Lambeth. The contract for the refreshment-rooms is taken by Messrs. Bertram and Roberts.

The Lord Chancellor has now the control of all the Courts. Mr. G. M. Hantler, the superintendent, is their responsible custodian. His staff should number not less than 120 men when the Courts are in full working order. The establishment of this staff is a piece of minor reform which will save public money. It will for the future do the work hitherto performed by the police, court-keepers, office-keepers, ushers, and messengers. The men wear a special uniform of blue with scarlet facings and neat distinctive caps. In course of time the familiar ushers, with their black gowns and wands, will disappear; as the present holders of the office drop out of the service their place will be filled by members of the new staff.

At the annual Court of the Scottish Corporation on Thursday week, Sir J. Heron-Maxwell in the chair, the income for the year was stated to have been £6235, being £1970 more than in 1880. The Prince of Wales was re-elected president. Sir W. V. Harcourt presided in the evening at the annual dinner in the Freemasons' Tavern, and warmly recommended the institution to the sympathies of Scotchmen, reminding them that some of the former sources of income had dried up. Subscriptions to the amount of £1350 were announced—her Majesty subscribing 100 guineas, and the chairman and Lord Rosebery fifty guineas each.

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GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVELS.

Something like a book of travels! is the exclamation which would most fitly describe the general impression derived from a necessarily cursory perusal of the two volumes entitled *From Benguella to the Territory of Yacca*: by H. Capello and R. Ivens (Sampson Low and Co.). To read the work thoroughly, so as to master it completely, understand it, and appreciate it, as it deserves, would occupy, pleasantly enough, if the time could be spared, the best part of the whole winter. For there is not only the narrative of personal experience and adventure to be conned and realised by means of the maps and other helpful accessories as well as by certain efforts of imagination; but there is a vast deal of scientific and general information which must be approached in the spirit of hard study rather than with the desire of mere entertainment. The very covers of the book, with the ornamental herd of wild buffaloes careering across them, are enough to whet appetite and excite interest. But what do the volumes contain? They contain, to speak generally, a "description of a journey into Central and West Africa," or, in other words, an account of results achieved by an "expedition organised in the years 1877-80." The account is the joint production of the two Portuguese naval officers already mentioned, who headed the expedition, and whose narrative, written, of course, in Portuguese, has been "translated by Alfred Elwes, Ph.D.," for the benefit of English readers. It is quite like old times to find the Portuguese to the fore again in their own original, or almost original, field of discovery and exploration; and there is something peculiarly appropriate in the association of an Englishman with Portuguese upon that field, though it be only in the capacity of their interpreter. To assist the reader there are large and elaborate maps, geographical and other tables, a vocabulary, and an index; and as for the illustrations, which are truly called "numerous," and which will serve for many purposes besides assistance, their name is verily profusion. Perhaps the translator would have done well and judiciously to omit the complimentary address inscribed to an anonymous Portuguese lady; for it can have but little interest for English readers, and the letter which it is an excuse for reproducing borders, as regards the language used, upon the ludicrously high-flown style. The "few words of explanation," probably, might also have been omitted with advantage; though it must be admitted, to do the gallant authors justice, that their little difference with Major Serpa Pinto is one that affects their character; and that, wherever the charges made against them may have become known, there they have a right to expect that their vindication of their conduct shall be published likewise. At any rate, it is a relief to arrive at the end of the explanatory pages and, hurrying over the intermediate "introduction," swoop down upon "the ancient and well-known city of Benguella." Henceforth the reader is likely to allow that all is, if not plain sailing, at any rate very interesting, entertaining, and instructive reading, up to the point at which, having taken a by no means reluctant leave of "the Brazilian flea" and its amputated victims, and having "spent a couple of months at Mossamedes, where 'succulent food, prepared in the European fashion,'" soon restored their exhausted frames, the two adventurous travellers prepared to set out for home after their two years' trying campaign. What they endured can only be imagined; but some idea may be given of the observations they were able to make and of the conclusions to which they came. Geologically, they would "define the regions running from the littoral to the interior in the following order—viz., limestone, sandstone, and granite"; but, of course, "these distinctions are not very exact." Mineralogically, "little can be said on the score of the precious metals"; but it can be stated "with absolute certainty that iron and copper are to be found all over the continent; the first of good quality, and the latter not inferior to the American." Ethnologically, "the tribes that at the present day occupy the countries of the great continent" traversed by the two travellers "appear for the most part to have derived their origin from remote quarters and different sources, the types becoming accentuated, later on, through purely local circumstances," so that, "whether we regard them from a physical or intellectual point of view, the tribes appear distributed in a gradually descending scale, north, south, and west, towards the coast." Sociologically, "the will of the chief rules supreme, he being the principal creator of the law, which is, in consequence, as variable as that will," so that "personal liberty is purely problematical in that part of the world." Ethicologically, "the moral sentiment among the natives is at present in embryo," so that there is something remarkable, or not at all remarkable, perhaps, in "the unconcern wherewith a native in obedience to orders will commit a wicked act." But, in the most moral and Christian countries, "obedience to orders" is considered by Judges as well as by military and other authorities to leave no room for conscientious scruples. Theologically, "every attempt to attribute to the negro a notion concerning the Creator, modelled after the manner of our own conceptions on the subject, is illusory; for the negro has no such notion." Philologically, there may or may not be "an intimate connection among all the African tongues," but superficially they are many and various, and "generally poor, imperfect, complicated by most varied signs, which of themselves complete a phrase through the non-existence of correlative ideas."

The magnificent promise of growing social prosperity in the British Colonies, and the interesting features of physical geography and natural history exhibited by New Zealand, combine to recommend the subject of Mr. W. Delisle Hay's new book, published in two inviting volumes by R. Bentley and Sons. *Brighter Britain; or, Northern New Zealand*, is the title he has chosen for this pleasant and instructive account of his own personal experiences, and of the exact information he has gathered from the best colonial authorities—statistical, scientific, and historical—concerning a part of the North Island hitherto imperfectly described. It is the northern territory of Auckland, the peninsula stretching from the city of that name, which stands upon a narrow isthmus between the Hauraki Gulf and the Manukau Harbour, to the extreme north-west promontory, Cape Maria Van Diemen, in semi-tropical latitudes. This piece of country, nearly two hundred miles in length but of varying breadth, is deeply indented and penetrated by gulfs and bays and winding inlets and the estuaries of rivers; and on the western side, more especially, its frequent hill-ranges, overgrown with a wilderness of the noblest forest-trees, and with a profuse luxuriance of other vegetation, afford the most picturesque scenery in all New Zealand. It is only within the last twenty years that European settlements with the intent of permanent agricultural occupation have possessed themselves of this attractive region; and few writers upon New Zealand, before Mr. Delisle Hay, except one or two early missionaries, have given us any particulars of its situation and aspect, while its capabilities for the raising of crops, the rearing of cattle and sheep, and other profitable industries, have not been sufficiently recognised. We can, therefore, assure the inquiring reader who seeks to make himself fairly acquainted with the different conditions and resources of all

parts of the colony, possibly with a view to choose his future residence or field of investment, that he will gain from these two "bright" volumes, with all their abundance of lively personal anecdotes, sound knowledge which is not to be found in the ordinary Colonial Handbooks, or in the Official Guides. "Settler and Maori" are the two main objects of description in Mr. Delisle Hay's present work; his first volume being filled with a narrative of the doings of a party of settlers, their arrival in Auckland, their journey up the country northward, and their "pioneer farm" near Te Pahi, on the Arapaoa creek, in the Kaipara district, which was then less easy of access than it is now; while great part of his second volume is devoted to the Maori tribes, their peculiar modes of life, manners and customs; their language and romantic mythology. He presents also, in a compact shape, but with due precision of detail, an account of the plants, birds, insects, and other natural productions of the region, and describes the valuable timber trees, especially the Kauri pine, which is peculiar to this part, in a style that naturalists will approve. With all this useful and instructive matter, he contrives to mingle a large allowance of hearty good fun, making a perpetual frolic of the queer shifts to which he and his companions were put, while roughing it in the bush with a very scanty store of the ordinary comforts of life, and with small means of purchasing them, but with the advantages of youth, health, and a courageous spirit. A pig-hunt, and other sporting adventures, a fearful story of a demon dog, and the description of a fierce scramble for miners' claims on the Thames gold-fields, diversify the contents of these volumes, which are likely to prove acceptable to many readers of various tastes, providing something or other for the gratification of all.

An establishment called "the South African Agency," conducted by Messrs. Juta, Heelis, and Co., in St. Bride's-avenue, Fleet-street, publishes one of the best narratives of travelling and sporting adventures, and of personal experiences in colonial life, prepared under the guise of entertaining fiction—though substantially true to fact—for the reading of spirited boys. *The Farm in the Karoo*, by Mrs. Carey-Hobson, while it purports to relate "what Charley Vyvyan and his friends saw in South Africa," gives a correct and vivid description of everything that would interest English youth in a sojourn of some months on that vast elevated plain of the Western Province of the Cape Colony, named the Karoo, situated between the Roggeveld and Nieuwveld mountains, to the north, and the Zwartberg range to the south, which affords good pasture for sheep, Angora goats, and ostriches, and is still the resort of large game, offering thereby equal attractions to the settler and to the sportsman. Three young friends, Charley Vyvyan, Fred Dalrymple, and Sinclair Marston, are wisely sent by their parents, for one year, to gain by rambling and visiting the colonists in this region a good stock of health, strength, and practical knowledge, which will prove beneficial to them in after life at home or abroad. The authoress, having herself resided a quarter of a century in South Africa, and having accurately studied its natural history, which is incomparably richer in interest than that of Australia, is very well furnished with the exact information needful to make this an instructive book; while she has the rarer faculty of combining incidents to make a good story, and imparting dramatic animation to the talk and behaviour of the youthful heroes. At Capetown and at Port Elizabeth, after the voyage out, touching at Madeira and St. Helena, they are introduced to the colonial world, of which many stay-at-home Englishmen remain but too much in ignorance; they next go "on trek," in the long waggon-journey from Uitenhage inland, and are welcomed by a pleasant English family, the Hardings, at Heathdale, after which they visit the cattle and sheep runs and ostrich camps of the Karoo. It is worth while for the reader to follow them up there.

A valuable essay on the climate of Madeira, which is a question of most anxious consideration for many British invalids and their friends at this time of the year, is published by Mr. David Douglas, of Edinburgh, under the title *Madeira Meteorologica*. The author is a gentleman of well-known scientific and literary attainments, Professor C. Piazzi Smyth, F.R.S., Astronomer Royal for Scotland. He treated this subject in a paper read before the Royal Society of Edinburgh in May last. We learn by a comparison with his book that Madeira is more humid in its atmosphere, and to this, according to Professor Smyth, it owes a more equable temperature; but the watery particles in the breathing medium, though beneficial to some kinds of consumption, are inimical to others, and should be avoided by those who require a drier air. The death-rate of consumptive patients stands high at Madeira in contrast with other places; but the Professor thinks that even this difference would be lessened if care were taken to watch the influences of the locality on a first arrival, so that on the appearance of certain symptoms, which are detailed from Dr. Mason's work, those in whom a humid atmosphere is not likely to effect a cure should be removed to a region better fitted for their case. The warm, and to a certain extent moist, air of Madeira is certainly good for some kinds of consumption. This is acknowledged, and the comparison with the returns of the Brompton Hospital is good evidence that such is the case. In addition to scientific and sanitary matters, Professor Piazzi Smyth's book will be found interesting for other details regarding the island. At the time of its discovery by the Portuguese, in the fifteenth century, the island was found to be so densely overgrown with forest that the simplest means of making a clearing was found to be by burning, and the fire which was first started to accomplish this lasted for the space of seven years. Even this long conflagration did not destroy all the old trees, for some of the "Giant Tils" remain; and that wood, as it rivals the teak for durability, was highly prized by the old Spanish ship-builders, and some of the largest vessels of the Spanish Armada had planks or beams in them of this wood. The author quotes a very beautiful poem on "The Giant Til," by T. M. Hughes, the author of "The Ocean Flower," regarding whom there is an interesting note in the appendix. Madeira is not a new region to Professor Piazzi Smyth. He and his wife visited it, and also Teneriffe, about twenty years ago, when they ascended the Peak, making observations and taking photographs, which were published at the time. Mrs. Smyth went in this last journey also, and assisted her husband in keeping the journals of the various scientific observations which are given.

Among recent books of travel we may notice *Arctic Sunbeams; or, From the Broadway to the Bosphorus*. By Samuel S. Cox. It is published by G. P. Putnam and Sons, New York. Mr. Cox has written on sunbeams before; but on this occasion he, with his wife, went off to the North Cape to see the midnight sun, after which they journeyed through Norway, Sweden, and Finland, to St. Petersburg, and then by Moscow, Kiev, and Odessa to Constantinople. This narrative has the merit of combining serious reflection, a capacity of thought and wisdom, with a vivacious outlook for humour and fun. The author everywhere keeps his mind awake to the political and social condition of the regions he is passing through. This combination of merits renders his book one that will be satisfactory to more than one class of readers.

OLD MANORIAL CUSTOMS.

Scattered throughout the country we find numerous old manorial customs, many of which, although no longer rigidly enforced as in days of old, are still kept up with more or less enthusiasm. One of the most curious is the Lawless Court, held at Rochford in Essex, on the Wednesday morning next after Michaelmas Day, upon the first cock-crowing, without any kind of light but such as the heavens may afford. The steward of the court summons all such as are bound to appear with as low a voice as possible, when he that does not answer to his name is deeply amerced. They are all to whisper to one another; nor have they any pen and ink, this requisite being supplied by a coal; those who owe suit and appear not forfeiting to the lord double his rent every hour they are absent. There is a tradition that this servile attendance was originally imposed upon certain tenants of divers manors for conspiring at such an unreasonable time to raise a commotion. According to an old custom, every peer of the realm, the first time he passes through Oakham, is required to give a horseshoe to nail upon the castle gate; and in case of non-compliance the lord of the manor has power to stop his carriage and take one off his horses' feet; but generally a sum of money is given to purchase one in lieu of it. Hence the interior wall and gate of the castle-yard are covered with horseshoes, some of these being gilt and stamped with the donor's name.

Another curious custom was the Gad-whip manorial service on Palm Sunday, by which was held the manor of Broughton and over 2000 acres of land. The whip was taken from Broughton by a man who, while the minister was reading the first Lesson, cracked it three times in the church porch, then folded it neatly up and retired to his seat. At the commencement of the second Lesson he approached the minister, and, kneeling opposite to him with the whip in his hand and a purse at the end of it, he held it over his head, after waving it thrice, throughout the whole of the chapter. This ended the ceremony, the origin of which is still a matter of conjecture. Again, on Monday in Rogation Week was formerly held in the town of Shaftesbury, Dorsetshire, a festival called the "Beant,"—a custom so old that no authentic record exists as to the time of its institution. The borough of Shaftesbury stands on the brow of a lofty hill, and at one time was so deficient in water that its inhabitants were indebted for a supply of it to the little hamlet of Enmore Green. The Beant was an acknowledgment on the part of the borough of Shaftesbury to the lord of the manor of Mitcombe, of which Enmore Green forms a part, for the permission to use this privilege. The Beant which gave its name to the festival was a sort of trophy, constructed of ribbons and flowers fastened to a frame, which, it is said, "was so richly adorned with plate and jewels, borrowed from the neighbouring gentry, so as to be worth no less than £1500."

Manningtree, in Essex, appears to have enjoyed the privilege of holding fairs by the tenure of exhibiting a certain number of stage-plays yearly. At its Whitsun fair an ox was roasted whole, and so Shakespeare in "I. Henry IV." (Act. ii. sc. 4), makes Prince Henry call Falstaff, "a roasted Manningtree ox, with the pudding in his belly." At Pencombe, in Hereford, the lord of the manor, in accordance with an ancient custom, claims a pair of gilt spurs, as an heriot, from every Mayor of Hereford, who dies in his office. Formerly it was customary at Marlborough, Wiltshire, for every freeman to give to the Mayor at his admission a couple of greyhounds, two white capons, and a white bull; but in after years money was given instead. At Bradford, in the same county, the tenants have been in the habit of paying a yearly rent to the lord of the manor, by the name of Veal Money, in lieu of veal, which was once paid in kind. A popular adage in the north of England, when a man is supposed to be working for nothing, is "he has been served like a boon-shearer," which refers to a custom once kept up in the manor of Ashton-under-Lyne, where every tenant at will was thus commanded:—"He that plough has, shall plough two days. He that half plough has, shall plough a day, whenever the lord be more willing, in wheat-seeding, or in lenten-seeding; and every tenant harrow a day with their harrow, in seed time, when they bin charged." This service was familiarly known as boon-work. The tithing-man of Combe Keynes, Dorsetshire, "is obliged," says Mr. Hutchins, in his history of that county, "to do suit at Winfrith-Court; and after repeating the following incoherent lines, pays threepence, and goes out without saying another word:—

With my white rod,
And I am a fourth post,
That three pence makes three,
God bless the King, and the lord of the franchise;
Our weights and our measures are lawful and true.
Good-morrow, Mr. Steward, I have no more to say to you.

On default of any of these particulars, the Court Leet of Combe is forfeited." Again, the "Court of Array" was formerly held on Whitsun Monday at Greenhill, in the vicinity of Lichfield, when every householder failing to answer to his name was fined a penny. Southeby, in his "Commonplace Book" (second series, 336), quotes this extract from Mrs. Fienne's MSS.:—"At Lichfield they have a custom at Whitsuntide, called the Green Bower Feast, by which they hold their charter. The bailiff and sheriff assist at the ceremony of dressing up babies with garlands of flowers, and carry them in procession through all the streets to a hill beyond the town, where is a large green bower made, in which they have their feast." It has been suggested that this ceremony may be the remains of the Commissions of Array, issued in the time of Henry V. At Thornton, near Sherborne, a custom prevailed among the tenants of the manor of depositing five shillings in a hole in a tombstone in the churchyard, which precluded the lord of the manor from taking the tithe of hay during the year. This had to be done before twelve o'clock on St. Thomas's Day, or the privilege was void. From time immemorial down to a late period, St. Brice's Day was annually celebrated at Stamford, in Lincolnshire, by a rough sport called bull-running. There is no documentary evidence on the subject, but the town of Stamford seems to have held certain common rights by the performance of this custom. Once more, according to an old tradition current in the neighbourhood of Grimsby, Lincolnshire, every burgess at his admission to the freedom of the borough presented to the Mayor a boar's head, or an equivalent in money when the animal could not be procured. Among the numerous other curious manorial customs may be mentioned the "Rhyme Toll," a yearly tax levied by the lord of Chetwode Manor on all cattle found within this liberty between Oct. 30 and Nov. 7. The toll now begins at nine o'clock in the morning, the hour being first sounded by the officer on the church hill at Buckingham, and afterwards in another part of the liberty on the border of Oxfordshire. The toll is then proclaimed as begun, and collectors are stationed to enforce it, at the rate of two shillings a score upon all cattle and swine passing on any road within the liberty until midnight on Nov. 7, when the "Rhyme" closes. According to tradition, this custom originated in a lord of Chetwode having slain a wild boar which terrified the neighbourhood.



CENTRAL HALL OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.

OBITUARY.

THE HON. J. L. COLE.

The Hon. John Lowry Cole, formerly M.P. for Enniskillen, died on the 28th ult. at Florence Court, in the county of Fermanagh. He was third son of John Willoughby, second Earl of Enniskillen, K.P., by Charlotte, his wife, fourth daughter of Henry, first Earl of Uxbridge; was born June 8, 1813, and received his education at Winchester. He was a magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant for the county of Fermanagh, and its High Sheriff in 1842. He sat in the House of Commons in the Conservative interest from 1859 to 1868.

CAPTAIN ROBERT SMITH.

Captain Robert Smith, late 44th Regiment, and Deputy Assistant-Quartermaster-General, Athlone Pursuivant of Arms, died on the 28th ult. He was born in Dublin, Sept. 14, 1792; entered the Army in March, 1807; and was with the expedition at the Bay of Naples, under Sir John Stuart, and subsequently at the taking of the Ionian Islands in that year; was appointed to the Quartermaster-General Staff in Sicily; also in the Peninsula, and subsequently in America. At the battle of Bladensburg he had a horse shot under him; and at New Orleans was severely wounded in three places on the fatal morning of Jan. 8, 1815. Joining his regiment in India, he was in the Burmese war. Some years after, on his retirement from the Army, he obtained the appointment of Athlone Pursuivant of Arms in Dublin Castle. He married, in 1816, Miss Soden, granddaughter of the Ven. Archdeacon Soden, of Maghera, county Londonderry, by whom he had several children, a son and daughter still surviving. Captain Smith was a very fair artist in oils, miniature-painting, and pencil, besides being a skilful military draughtsman. It was from his original drawings, made on the spot, that Burford's Panorama of Calcutta, Benares, and Delhi was painted. Captain Smith also produced a volume, with coloured illustrations, entitled "Asiatic Costumes."

We have also to record the deaths of—

The Rev. Frederick Edward Jackson Valpy, M.A., formerly Head Master of Reading Grammar School, and Rector of Garveston, Norfolk, in the eighty-sixth year of his age.

The Rev. Thomas Dealtry, Vicar of Maidstone, and late Archdeacon of Madras, at The Vicarage, on the 29th ult., after a long illness. He was the son of the late Bishop of Madras.

Mr. Ralph Merrick Leeke, of Longford Hall, Shropshire, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff in 1850, on the 26th ult., at his seat near Newport. He married, in 1847, Lady Hester Urania, daughter of the fourth Earl of Portsmouth, and leaves issue.

Mr. William Jones Westby, of High Park, in the county of Wicklow, J.P. and D.L., High Sheriff in 1827, on the 26th ult., aged eighty, eldest son of the late Edward Westby, of High Park, for many years Master in Chancery in Ireland.

Colonel Frederick Hugh Chancellor, R.A., of 70, Prince's-square, W.; second son of the late Captain Alexander Chancellor, of Shieldhill, Lanarkshire, on the 26th ult., in his fifty-ninth year.

Lady Emily Hamilton, wife of Major John Glencairn Carter Hamilton, of Dalzell, late M.P. for South Lanarkshire and Falkirk Burghs, and youngest daughter of David, Earl of Leven and Melville, on the 11th ult., aged forty-two.

Mr. John Bramwell, Recorder of Durham, on the 25th ult., in his ninetieth year; an Alderman of Durham from 1835 to 1852, and five times Mayor of that city, J.P. for Durham, and Chairman of the Dublin School of Art.

Lady Augusta Sarah Cadogan, Hon. Lady-in-Waiting to H.R.H. the Duchess of Cambridge, on the 28th ult., aged seventy-one, eldest daughter of Admiral George, third Earl Cadogan, by Honoria Louisa, his wife, sister of the first Lord Wallscourt.

Captain William John Wauchope, of Niddrie Marischal, Midlothian, late Captain 6th Inniskilling Dragoons, the representative of the very ancient family of Wauchope, formerly Hereditary Baillies in Midlothian to the Keiths, Marischals in Scotland, on the 26th ult., aged forty-one.

Anna Elizabeth, Dowager Lady Grey-Egerton, on the 26th ult.; second daughter of Mr. George John Leigh, of High Legh, Cheshire; married, 1832, Sir Philip de Malpas Grey-Egerton, Bart., F.R.S., by whom she leaves, with other issue, the present Sir Philip le Belward Grey-Egerton, Bart., and the present Countess of Selkirk.

General Robert William Corfield, of the Indian army, on the 30th ult., at an advanced age. He entered the Indian army in December, 1821, was present at the siege and storming of Bhurtpore in 1825-6, and served with the army of the Indus in 1839-40, in the Gwalior campaign of 1843-4, and throughout the Punjaub campaign of 1848-9.

Mr. Thomas Miller, of Bradley Grove, Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire, on the 5th ult., aged sixty-six. He was from 1855 to 1868 British Consul at St. Vincent, Cape Verde Islands, the present prosperity of which place is largely due to his forethought and energy. For his eminent services during a visitation of cholera he received the Portuguese Order of the Tower and Sword.

A SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENT IN SHEEP-BREEDING.

Amongst the principal flocks of Queensland is that called the Jimbour flock, the property of the Darling Downs and Western Land Company, Limited, situated about 170 miles from Brisbane on the Southern and Western Railway. The country in that locality is very level, consisting of large plains; the soil is remarkably fertile, the grass in every direction being most luxuriant. There are a variety of grasses, together with many fine herbs, all of which are well suited for rearing and fattening all kinds of stock; and, notwithstanding the heavy summer rains, such a thing as foot-rot is never known among the sheep. The stock consists in the meantime of about 90,000 sheep, which have been mostly bred from the finest imported rams. Perhaps the most successful of the importations were two merino rams taken out by Mons. Le Grand from Spain, and purchased by the late Sir Joshua Peter Bell, the then proprietor of the above property. These rams were of large frame, one of them weighing 210 lb. and the other 196 lb.: the wool was of fair quality and good staple. A judicious selection of the best ewes was made from the flocks first brought from Maitland—on the settlement of the country, about forty years ago—and to these ewes the imported rams were put; and in a few years, by carefully selecting the lambs, a stud flock was formed, the only one in Australia that can trace its descent from sires imported from Spain. This flock is known as the "Le Grand Stud Flock." A grandson of the imported ram that weighed 210 lb. was shown at the New South Wales International Exhibition, where he carried off first prize.

Sir Robert Phillimore will, the *Law Journal* understands, resign his office as Judge of the Admiralty at Christmas. The learned Judge has been longest on the bench of all the Judges, and he is the oldest Judge in years, except Vice-Chancellor Bacon. He completed his fifteen years' last summer.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope, of which you will see we have availed ourselves.

A. R. (Skelmore).—There is no rule on the subject, but in recent tournaments provision has been made for the case of the same move being made a number of times successively. We believe the limit is fifty.

W. B. (Stratford).—Thanks, your problem shall be examined.

J. C. (Hull).—The problem referred to in our answer is not the same as that described by you. We shall repeat the position at an early date.

J. S. (Bootle).—A good idea; if found correct it shall appear.

MOULIN ADERBROF (Buenos).—The problem shall have early attention.

GALLIARD (Tunstall).—There are two English monthlies solely devoted to the game of Chess. *The Chess Monthly* and *the British Chess Magazine*.

W. E. (Dewsbury).—As an illustration of the occasional weakness of a great player the game is interesting, but it would be unfair to publish it seriously.

A. H. M. (Norwich).—Thanks; the problem shall be examined.

E. L. G. (Blackwater).—In the Indian problem the Rook is on Q 6th. Your solution of it is correct.

F. G. (St. John's Wood).—We are obliged for the game, and you shall have an early report on the new variation.

PROBLEMS received, with thanks, from II Jacobs and Rudolf L'hermet of Magdeburg.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 2017 received from N C Srinivasachary (Erode, Madras), and from S Subramania Tyer (Madras).

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 2021 received from H Youssoufian (Constantinople), I. S. Shenele, Levina Grove, Dr F. St., and T S P (Malta).

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 2022 received from A. L. (Copenhagen), H. R. Clayton, W. Gibbons, Rushford Baldwin, P. S. Shenele, Woggelepp, Donald Mackay, Dr F. St., Miss M. P. (Bru-sels), J. M. Burnell, and W. F. R. (Swansea).

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 2023 received from H. B. Alfred Robinson, Alpha H. Z. (Manchester), E. L. W. (Hockley, West Ham), M. O'Halloran, R. Gray, G. Fosbrook, A. W. Scrutton, L. Sharwood, Ernest Sharwood, G. S. Olding, E. Casella (Paris), L. Falcon (Antwerp), H. K. Awdry, W. Hillier, N. S. Harris, B. J. Wood, H. H. Noyes, S. Bullen, D. W. Kell, L. Wyman, L. L. Greenaway, S. Lowndes, C. W. Wilson, H. Lucas, Joseph Ainsworth, H. Reave, A. Harper, Jupiter Junier, Harry Springthorpe, Benjamin George, J. R. (Edinburgh), J. Hall, Donald Mackay, Little Tommy, Schmucke, James Dobson, Cant, R. B. (Camberwell), E. Loudon, Smut, J. Brandreth, F. F. (Brussels), Nerina, and F. Johnston.

Note.—This problem appears to have defeated a large number of correspondents, who have overlooked the correct defence to their proposed solutions. We may point out that Black has a good defence to 1. Q to Kt 3rd, in 1. B to Q 3rd; against 1. Q takes Kt, 1. Q to B 2nd, and 1. Q to Kt 3rd, the defence is 1. B to Q 2nd; against 1. Q to K 7th the defence is 1. K to B 5th, and against 1. P to Q 3rd (ch). Black's best reply is 1. B takes P.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 2022.

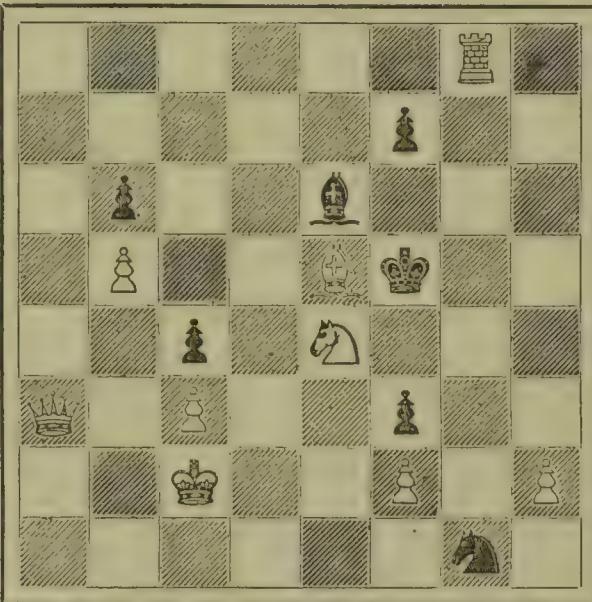
WHITE. BLACK.
1. Kt to Kt 4th P takes Kt
2. Q to R 8th Any move
3. Mates accordingly.

The above is the author's modus; but there is another solution by way of 1. Kt to K 3rd.

PROBLEM NO. 2025.

By J. W. ABBOTT.

BLACK.

Played, in a friendly Match between Messrs. THOROLD and FELDEN, at the Clifton Chess Club.—(*King's Gambit declined*.)

WHITE (Mr. T.)	BLACK (Mr. F.)	WHITE (Mr. T.)	BLACK (Mr. F.)
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1. P to Kt 4th	P to K 4th	19. P takes Kt	K to R sq
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2. P to K 4th	B to B 4th	20. Kt to B 3rd	Q to Kt 4th
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3. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	21. Kt to K sq	Q R to K sq
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4. P to Q 4th		22. B to Q 2nd	R to K Kt sq
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5. P to Q R 4th		23. P to Q R 4th	
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6. Castles	B to K Kt 5th		
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7. P to Q R 3rd	P to Q R 3rd		
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8. P to K R 3rd	B takes Kt		
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9. Q takes B	Kt to B 3rd		
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10. Kt to Q 2nd	Castles		
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11. P to Kt 4th	B to R 2nd		
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12. P to Kt 4th	Q to Q 2nd		
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13. P to Kt 5th	Kt to K sq		
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14. Q to R 5th	P to K Kt 3rd		
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15. Q to R 6th	Kt to K 2nd		
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16. P to B 5th	Kt to K 4th		
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17. P to B 6th	Kt to R 4th		
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18. K to R 2nd	Kt takes B		
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		He should have retreated the Q to Q 3rd at once, with the view of proffering the exchange at K B sq.	
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		29. R to K Kt 2nd	Q to Q 3rd
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		30. R to Kt 4th	Q to K B sq
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			Too late!
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		31. Q takes P (ch),	
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			and White mates in two moves.
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La Vie Moderne announces that the proprietors of the *Café de la Régence* have provided the sum of 100 francs for the first prize of a handicap tourney, and that play will be commenced in the first week of December next.

A game of chess with living pieces, in characteristic dresses, was played at the Yeadon Townhall on the 11th inst. The performers were Mr. D. Y. Mills on the one side and Mr. E. B. Hussey on the other, both well-known members of the Leeds Chess Club. The opening chosen was the Philidor's Defence, and on the ninth move White sacrificed his Kt for a Pawn, and, later on, a Rook for a Knight. The game ended in a draw by perpetual check.

It is announced that after the issue of a double number for August and September, "Brentano's Monthly" will cease to appear. This excellent chess magazine has been, from the first, well supported in England, but it failed to secure the subscriptions of American amateurs. Let us hope that its successor, the *Brooklyn Chess Chronicle*, may fare better in that respect.

We have received the first and second numbers of the *Brooklyn Chess Chronicle*, a new fortnightly publication edited by the Brothers Munoz, well-known amateurs in the "city of churches." The contents comprise games, problems, news and notes on news, and the price per copy is ten cents. We cordially recommend the Chronicle to our readers.

We have also received the first number of the *Sussex Chess Magazine*, a fortnightly record of local chess, published at Brighton. It is edited by Mr. Walter Mead.

On Saturday, the 25th ult., the members of the Roehampton Chess and Draughts Club visited and defeated the Isleworth Club by 6½ to 4½ in chess and by 6½ to 2½ in draughts.

On the same day the Greenwich and Bermondsey players encountered each other, and the former won with a score of 6½ to 2½; and on the 23rd ult. the North London defeated the Ludgate-circus Club by 6 games and 2 draws. A match between the Railway Clearing House and the Athenaeum Clubs resulted in the victory of the former by 9 games to 8.

Mr. H. E. Fanshawe, M.A., formerly Fellow of Corpus, and Mr. C. A. E. Pollock, B.A., scholar of Trinity College, have been elected Fellows of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

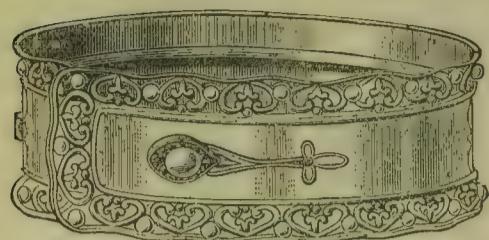
WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated Sept. 13, 1882) of Mr. John Chevallier Cobbold, late of Holywells, Ipswich, who died on Oct. 6 last, was proved on the 28th ult. by Thomas Clement Cobbold, C.B., Nathaniel Fronanteel Cobbold, and Felix Thornley Cobbold, the sons; and John Dupuis Cobbold, the grandson, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £146,000. The testator sets forth the various considerable provisions he has already made for his children, and he makes further provision for them and for a daughter-in-law and grandchildren. He also bequeaths legacies to each of his domestic servants who have been in his service twelve months at his death; and £100 each to the East Suffolk Hospital and the Ipswich Shipwrecked Seamen's Society. To his grandson, John Dupuis Cobbold, he gives the manor of Wix Bishop and his mansion-house and estate of Holywells, with the furniture, plate, pictures, and effects; and he settles upon him the Capel Hall estate. The residue of his real and personal estate is to accumulate for ten years, at the expiration of which time he leaves the Cliff Brewery Estate and his one-third share of the partnership property in connection therewith to his said grandson; and the ultimate residue is to be divided among his next of kin, in the same manner as it would have been if he had died intestate.

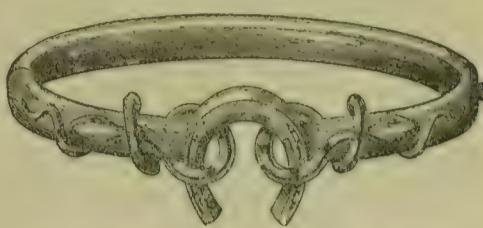
The will (dated June 1, 1881) of Mr. John Fawcett, late of North Bailey, in the city of Durham, who died on Oct. 21 last, was proved on the 23rd ult. by Christopher John Foyle Fawcett, the nephew, the sole executor, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £88,000. The testator leaves legacies to his brother, Ralph Thomas Fawcett, and to nephews and nieces; and all his real estate and the residue of the personality to his said nephew Christopher John Foyle Fawcett.

The will (dated Jan. 24, 1879), with a codicil (dated June 30, 1881), of Mr. William Barker, late of No. 215, Borough High-street, Southwark, linendraper, who died on

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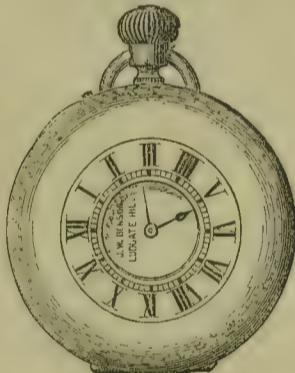
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THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE: THE CAREY-STREET FRONT.

OPENING OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.



THE QUEEN OPENING THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.

On Monday last, one of the brightest and fairest of December days that can shine in England, her Most Gracious Majesty came from Windsor Castle to London, and met the Judges of her august High Court of Justice at the noble edifice in the Strand just completed for the accommodation of their collective tribunals and offices, which the Queen has now formally opened to the highest public use, and which will stand, we trust, for centuries hereafter, along with the Laws and Constitution of this Kingdom, a perfect House or Palace of English Judicial Administration, the Home and Sanctuary of all public and

Majesty passed the cheering was very cordial. The Royal carriages proceeded slowly amidst the applause of the multitude in the streets with the joyful peals of church bells, by Hyde Park-corner and Constitution-hill, through St. James's to Pall-mall, and by Duncannon-street to the Strand. In Trafalgar-square there was a great crowd, all delighted to greet the Queen; and along the Strand the procession passed, amid cheering crowds waving handkerchiefs, and shouts that nearly overpowered the bells in the church towers. It reached the Courts just after the clock of St. Clement Danes had struck the hour of twelve. The reception of her Majesty was indeed thoroughly popular, and can only be compared to that of ten years ago, when the Queen made her memorable journey to St. Paul's on the occasion of the thanksgiving for the recovery of the Prince of Wales.

The decorations along the route were not profuse, or very novel or elaborate in design. In Pall-mall little had been attempted; only the Oxford and Cambridge, Junior Carlton, Army and Navy, and Reform Clubs showed hangings of crimson cloth from their windows; and one or two of the shops opposite the War Office having also draped balconies, and trophies of bannerets, upon the house fronts. Passing the United Service Club into Pall-mall East, the decorations at one or two places were effective, and here first appeared the appropriate and time-honoured inscription of "God Save our Queen." Outside St. Martin's Church the parochial authorities had erected spacious tiers of seats, on the front of which was the inscription "May God give thee long life and happiness."

As usual on all festive occasions, the Royal Standard floated from the church tower. Outside Charing-cross Station a row of Venetian masts flanked the roadway, and on the opposite side the American Exchange and the post office showed effective decorations; while the Lowther Arcade was adorned with flags. Nearly all the shops along the Strand were closed for the day, and their front windows filled with sight-seers. Before the new building of the Art-Union of Great Britain stood the first of the so-called "trophies." From a group of Venetian masts, painted crimson and bound with gold, hung a massive cloth of blue, with bullion fringe, bearing on its face the words "Welcome to the Queen, Duchess of Lancaster;" while on the obverse was "God Bless Our Gracious Queen." From this point Venetian masts of the usual pattern, bearing shields and groups of bannerets, flanked the roadway to the Church of St. Mary-e-Strand, outside which a large stand had been built. Through the narrow part of the Strand, between the two churches, St. Mary's and St. Clement Danes, the roadway was spanned with cords, from which depended groups of pennons. Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son's large newspaper establishment, at the corner of Arundel-street, and the offices of the *Illustrated London News*, had been adorned with flags and crimson hangings. St. Clement Danes Church was completely begirt with a Grand Stand, erected by Messrs. Simmonds Brothers, which was of a massive and ornamental character, coming almost opposite to the main entrance of the Royal Courts, outside which a temporary covered way of crimson and white striped canvas, with bullion hangings, was in readiness for the Royal and other carriages to pass under. Opposite this, on the south side of the Strand, the entire front of the Palace of Justice Chambers, now in the course of erection by Mr. Welsh, was utilised by the fixing of three temporary balconies, rising tier above tier, and accommodating about four hundred ladies and gentlemen, invited by the Palace Chambers Company, by permission of the authorities of the

Middle Temple. The City boundary was marked by a significantly inscribed banner, across the street, "Municipal Government—Uses without Abuses."

The line of route from Trafalgar-square to the Royal Courts of Justice was kept by men of the Foot Guards, with troopers of the Horse Guards at the principal cross-ways, and a large force of police.

The Lord Chancellor and Judges, having met in the House of Lords, came, after breakfasting together, attired in their full robes and wigs, to the Royal Courts of Justice, soon after eleven o'clock. Their procession was headed by the Lord Chancellor, the Lord Chief Justice of England, and the Master of the Rolls. Then followed in couples Lord Justice Baggalay and Lord Justice Brett, Lord Justice Cotton and Lord Justice Lindley, Lord Justice Bowen and Vice-Chancellor Bacon, Sir James Hannan and Sir R. Phillimore, Mr. Justice Grove and Mr. Justice Denman, Mr. Baron Pollock and Mr. Justice Field, Baron Huddleston and Mr. Justice Manisty, Mr. Justice Hawkins and Mr. Justice Lopes, Mr. Justice Fry and Mr. Justice Stephens, Mr. Justice Williams and Mr. Justice Mathews, Mr. Justice Cave and Mr. Justice Chitty, Mr. Justice Kay and Mr. Justice North, Mr. Justice Day and Mr. Justice Pearson, the Attorney-General (Sir Henry James, M.P.) and the Solicitor-General (Sir F. Herschell, M.P.).

Meanwhile the visitors had been rapidly arriving at the Courts, amongst those recognised being Earl Granville, Sir William Harcourt, and the Archbishop of York. A cheer along the Strand announced the approach of the Prime Minister, who was in Windsor uniform, seated by the side of Mrs. Gladstone, in the carriage with him also being Miss Gladstone and Mr. Hamilton, his private secretary; Mr. Herbert Gladstone following in a landau, with his sister, Miss Mary Gladstone. Ten minutes later the first Royal carriage passed with the Prince of Wales, wearing the silk robes of a Bencher of the Inns of Court over a Field Marshal's uniform. The greeting to his Royal Highness was most hearty and decided. In a few minutes more came the Duke of Cambridge, with Princess Mary (Duchess of Teck), and the Duke of Teck, they in turn being followed by another small procession of Royal carriages from Buckingham Palace, in which were seated the Dukes of Connaught and Albany, and Prince Christian, with their suites. All the Royal parties were received with the customary salute by the Grenadier Guards drawn up in front of the new Courts and by a guard of honour of the Queen's Westminster Rifle Volunteers, under Lieutenant-Colonel Scrimmer, posted close to the western side of the church of St. Clement Danes. About the same time the Civic procession from the Mansion House, consisting of the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, with the Sheriffs, with a deputation from the Aldermanic Body and the Court of Common Council, drove up from the City, his Lordship being received with a flourish of trumpets. The Lord Mayor, who, together with the other members of the Corporation, was in full state dress, was attended by the various officers of the City of London.

The architectural interior of the Central Hall is described in our separate account of the new building. When all the Royal and official personages had entered and taken their places, while the remainder of the space was filled with a great company of privileged spectators, the scene was grand and beautiful. At the upper or northern end of the hall was a raised dais, carpeted in crimson, upon which was placed a chair of State, the framework of which was moulded in gold, and in front of which was a velvet-covered footstool. The approaches to the dais were kept by Yeomen of the Guard, in their quaint uniform, with their halberds. On the left of the throne, the place of honour was reserved for the Foreign Ambassadors, whose uniforms and the decorations they wore made a brilliant show; while the Chinese and some other Orientals were in the costumes of their own nations. The Judges, in their robes, the Lords Justices of Appeal in black and gold, the others in scarlet and ermine, were divided to right and left; they had, with the First Commissioner of Works, received the Queen at the entrance to the building, and conducted her Majesty in procession into the Central Hall. Mr. Gladstone, as Chancellor of the Exchequer, had put on the black and gold robe of that office, which was anciently a judicial one, and took his place with the Judges. Her Majesty having reached the dais remained standing, Sir William Harcourt standing on her right, where also stood the Archbishop of York, the Lord Chief Justice, Princess Beatrice, Princess Christian, Princess Mary, and other members of the Royal family. On the left of the Queen stood the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Connaught, the Duke of Albany, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, the Duke of Teck, the Prime Minister, and some of the Judges. The Queen and Princesses wore deep mourning, for the death of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the First Commissioner of Works, advanced towards the Queen, bearing the key of the building on a velvet cushion. Bowing low, he said:—

"May it please your Majesty,—Your Commissioners of Works and Public Buildings have been charged with the erection of this building during the last eight years. It is now complete. It has fallen upon me to announce to your Majesty that it is ready to be constituted by your Royal command as the 'certain place' in which, in accordance with the ancient laws of your kingdom, justice shall be administered in the future by your Majesty's Courts."

Her Majesty laid her hand on the key in token of acceptance; and it was then handed by the Home Secretary to the Lord Chancellor, to whom the Queen, in distinct and audible tones, addressed the following words:—

"I deliver the key of these Courts into your hands. I trust that the uniting together of the various branches of the Judicature in this, the Supreme Court of Judicature, will conduce to a more speedy and efficient administration of justice to my subjects in my Courts. I trust my Courts will prove in the future, as in times past, the chief security of the rights of my Crown and the liberties of my people."

The Lord Chancellor, having accepted the key on bended knee, delivered a proper and suitable address in reply: "In the name of the Supreme Court of Judicature, accepting the charge of this building, which," his Lordship said, "we trust will remain to a remote posterity as one of the most magnificent public works of the time in which we live. These Royal Courts of Justice, stately enough to satisfy even those most accustomed to Westminster Hall, will not, like Westminster Hall, recall the memories of the Norman, the Plantagenet, the Tudor, or the Stuart Kings; but they will be for ever associated with the name of your Majesty and with that glorious reign, happy beyond all its predecessors in those qualities of the Sovereign which have made your Majesty so universally beloved and revered in the advancement of all the arts of civilisation, and in the general peace and prosperity of the British people. Amongst the improvements which have distinguished your Majesty's reign not the least has been the consolidation and union of the several branches of the Supreme Court of Judicature, which formerly exercised divided administration. To give full effect to that great change it was necessary that the different courts and offices should be brought together in one edifice fit for the duty which they have to perform. This has at last been done, and your Majesty, by your gracious presence here to-day, has given an earnest of your care for that justice which will hereafter be administered in your name."

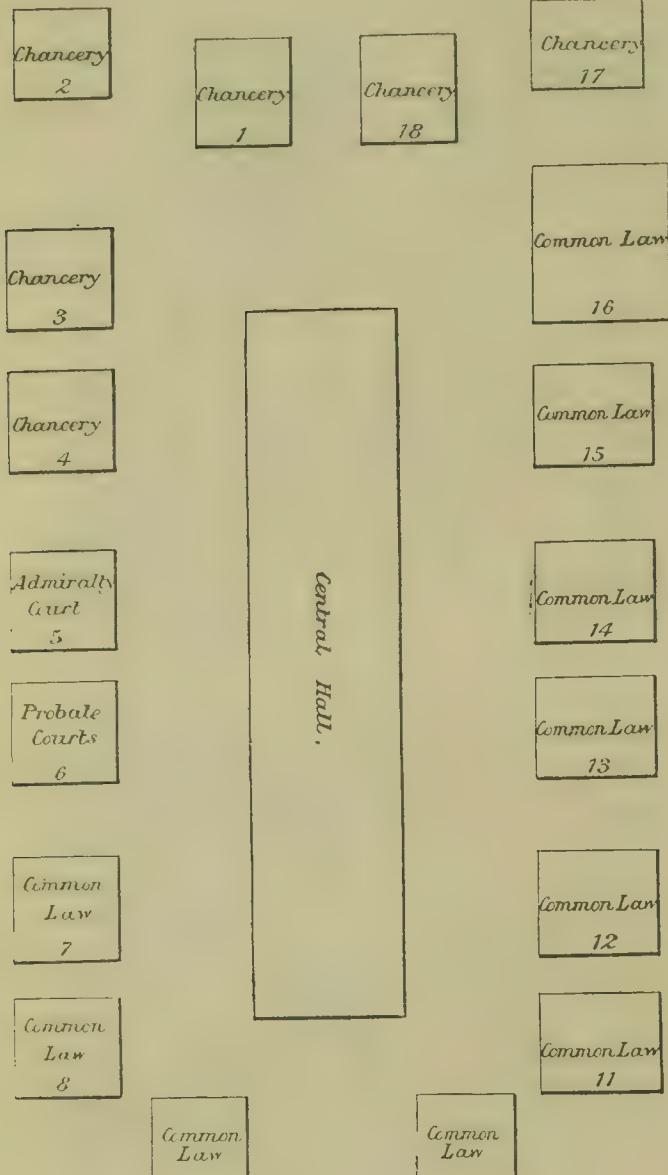
The Archbishop of York then offered the special prayer to which we have referred in the introductory comment upon this solemn ceremonial. The Prince of Wales, as a Bencher of the Middle Temple, ascended the dais, accompanied by the Treasurers of the four Inns of Court, and presented to her Majesty an address from those Societies. Other addresses having also been presented, Sir William Harcourt advanced a few steps and said in a loud voice, "I have it in command from her Majesty the Queen to declare this building open."

At this her Majesty's trumpeters, who were stationed in a balcony above the dais, announced the event with a loud and prolonged flourish. Then the Attorney-General advanced a few steps towards the Queen and prayed that her Majesty would direct that the proceedings should be entered upon the records of the Supreme Court. The Lord Chancellor replied that her Majesty had been pleased to direct that it should be done as prayed.

The procession then re-formed and proceeded to the quadrangle, each of the Judges, as he passed before the Queen, making a low inclination, which her Majesty graciously acknowledged. In the quadrangle, reached by a passage to the north-east of the Central Hall, a detachment of the Inns of Court Volunteers had been stationed as a Guard of Honour. Here the carriages of the Royal Party were drawn up awaiting the conclusion of the ceremony. At length the procession appeared, the Judges, as they came through, forming in double line for her Majesty to pass. An address was presented by the architects and one from the workmen to the Queen, who, after this brief ceremony, re-entered her carriage, and drove off amid renewed cheers. This concluded the formal proceedings.

The architects were represented by Mr. Arthur Edward Street, his colleague, Mr. Arthur Blomfield, being prevented by a domestic affliction from attending. Mr. A. E. Street was presented by Mr. Shaw Lefevre to the Queen, who expressed her regret that his father, the late Mr. George Edmund Street, R.A., had not lived to see the completion of his great work. Mr. H. W. Bull and Mr. E. C. Bull, of the firm of Messrs. Joseph Bull and Sons, of Southampton, contractors for the whole building, were also presented to her Majesty, and received her congratulations upon their performance. The address from the workmen was presented by Mr. Thomas Epps, the general manager for the builders, and Mr. Frederick Clarke, the foreman of masons, who were likewise congratulated by the Queen, as she said, upon "the successful results of your honourable toil."

Each of the Four Inns of Court, immediately after the ceremony, entertained one or more of the Royal Princes, with a numerous and distinguished company, at a grand luncheon. The Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck, with most of the Foreign Ambassadors,



PLAN OF THE COURTS AROUND THE CENTRAL HALL IN THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.

private Rights concerning her Majesty's subjects of every rank and class. The structure which on Monday was thus ceremonially handed over by the First Commissioner of Works to the Lord Chancellor and the Judiciary, through the personal intervention of their Royal Mistress, is sufficiently described, for the present occasion, in another page of this Journal. It is now beheld as one of the grandest architectural ornaments of this greatest metropolis; and the convenience of its plan will not fail to be appreciated, when the Courts shall be opened here next Term, by the Judges themselves; by hundreds of members of the honourable and useful professions of barristers and solicitors, both those ordinarily practising in London, and those occasionally called up from the country to perform their avocations in the Supreme Court; by the citizens who may be summoned to serve on juries, the parties to every cause here tried, the witnesses, and the general public; so that we may hail the opening of these New Law Courts as an era from which should be dated a great access of popular confidence, interest, and goodwill, in favour of the administration of the Law. No greater blessing could humanly be conferred upon the whole nation than the encouragement of this wholesome public sentiment; and every loyal and honest heart must feel disposed to join in the sincere and solemn consecrating prayer, which was read by the Archbishop of York:—

"Oh, God, excellent in power, perfect in judgment, we dedicate to Thee this house for the administration of justice, beseeching Thee to accept and bless those who shall act as Judges in this place. Give them that power and truth and righteousness that they may administer justice wisely and uprightly, without fear and without respect of person; for without justice nothing shall stand sure. Bless our Queen, and give her many years of rule over us and to judge a loyal and prosperous people; continue to her the affection of her subjects; bring to naught the devices of lawlessness and crime. May our laws be a terror to evil-doers, and a safeguard to them that do well. May order and obedience reign in every part of this country."

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Christian and Princess Beatrice, left Windsor at five minutes to eleven by special train, and arrived at Paddington thirty-five minutes later. Her Majesty was received at the station by the Lord Chamberlain (the Earl of Kenmare), the Mistress of the Robes (the Duchess of Bedford), the Gold Stick in Waiting (Lord Templeton), the Silver Stick in Waiting (Colonel Duncombe), Colonel Clive, of the Grenadier Guards (Field Officer in Waiting), the Lord Steward (Earl Sydney), the Master of the Horse (the Duke of Westminster), Lord Alfred Paget, and Colonel Burnaby. The Queen, with her two daughters, entered an open carriage drawn by four bays, the suite taking their places in four other carriages behind, preceded and surrounded by a field officer's escort of the Royal Horse Guards (Blue), commanded by Major Wickham. There was a large gathering of people outside the station, and as her

the Home Secretary, the Lord Chancellor, and many of the nobility, ladies and gentlemen of rank, were entertained in the fine old Hall of the Middle Temple; and there was a large marquee in the garden, towards the Thames Embankment, where many barristers and students of that inn, with ladies, partook of luncheon. Prince Christian received the hospitality of the Treasurer, Benchers, and members of the Inner Temple; the Duke of Albany was similarly entertained in Lincoln's Inn Hall, being himself a Bencher there; while the Benchers of Gray's Inn had for their guest the Duke of Connaught.

The Queen's pleasure is announced to confer an Earldom upon Lord Selborne, the Lord Chancellor, and to bestow the honour of Knighthood upon the four Treasurers of the Inns of Court—namely, Mr. Francis Roxburgh, Q.C., of the Middle Temple; Mr. John Blosset Maule, Q.C., of the Inner Temple; Mr. John De Gex, Q.C., of Lincoln's Inn; and Mr. William Wheelhouse, Q.C., of Gray's Inn; as well as Mr. Thomas Paine, who, as President of the Incorporated Law Society, on behalf of the profession of solicitors, presented an Address to her Majesty upon this occasion.

PLAN OF THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE.

We must here refer to another page for a detailed account of the new buildings opened by the Queen last Monday, in which we have explained the position of the Central Hall, with the surrounding Law Courts, eighteen of these being shown in the annexed plan; the nineteenth Court, for the present, occupies a temporary place in the apartment designed for a barristers' robing-room, in the north-west quarter of the building. It will be observed that the Queen's Bench Division, or Common Law, will occupy ten of the new Court-rooms, along the east side and south end of the Central Hall; while the Chancery Courts are at the north-west angle and at the north end of the Hall; the Appeal Courts lie northward, one of them, for the assembled full Bench of Common Law Judges, being the large apartment, No. 16. The Courts are so arranged that the upper end, with the Judge's Bench, in each Court, is at the end farthest from the Central Hall; and the Judges' Corridor, which passes all round the upper ends of the Courts, will allow each Judge to pass into Court by a door fronting that of his own private room. The barristers' corridor, as elsewhere explained, passes by the other end of each of the Courts, next the Central Hall; while the solicitors, jury-men, witnesses, and spectators or audience not engaged in the trial, have quite separate ways of access.

THE CHURCH.

The Archbishop of Canterbury died on Sunday morning, after a long illness. We defer giving his memoir until next week, when it will accompany a portrait of the Archbishop. His family have declined the offer of a funeral in Westminster Abbey, and, in accordance with the deceased prelate's wishes, his remains will be deposited with those of his wife and son in the family vault at Addington.

Last week the Bishop of Chichester consecrated the new chancel of St. Andrew's Church, Waterloo-street, Hove.

There will be the usual afternoon service in Westminster Abbey on Christmas Day, but no sermon.

The ancient church of Sundridge (Kent) was reopened yesterday week, after partial destruction by fire. The restoration has cost about £2000.

A window of two lights, by Messrs. Mayer and Co., has been placed in the church, East Cowes, as a memorial to Mr. William Veale Hennah and Frances, his wife, by their children.

The officers of the Royal Engineers are about to place a memorial window of stained glass in the west front of Rochester Cathedral, in memory of those officers of the Royal Engineers who fell during the war in South Africa.

A bazaar on behalf of a new mission building in the parish of St. Mark, Kennington, was opened by Lady Brand on Tuesday. It was held in Pilgrim-street, Upper Kennington-lane, in the building itself. Lady Brand was supported by Canon Farrar and other speakers.

The Bishop of London, acting under a commission from the Archbishop of Canterbury, consecrated at Westminster Abbey on Thursday week the Rev. G. W. Kennion, late Rector of All Saints', Bradford, as Bishop of Adelaide, South Australia. The other officiating prelates were the Bishops of Lichfield, Rochester, and Winchester.

The final general meeting of the Committee of the Church Congress was held last week at Derby, under the presidency of Canon Abney, when the surplus funds arising out of the recent Congress meeting were ordered to be added to the Southwell Bishopric Fund, for which, since the opening of the Congress, about £3500 has been raised.

Last Saturday the Bishop of Rochester consecrated the Church of the Transfiguration, a handsome brick building erected in Algernon-road, Lewisham, to supply the spiritual wants for the increasing population of St. Stephen's. The total cost has been £6000, of which a debt of £1000 remains; but this was reduced at Saturday's offertory by £114.

The Rev. G. R. Pennington, for nine years Vicar of Coton, near Nuneaton, died suddenly on Sunday night while in church. The rev. gentleman had just finished his sermon, and offered up the closing prayer, and while the congregation were leaving the sacred edifice he was observed to fall. Assistance was soon at hand, but death ensued in a few minutes, from heart disease.

A course of Advent Lectures will be preached in St. Alphage's Church, London-wall, on Friday evenings, at eight o'clock, during the Advent season, by the following clergymen:—Dec. 8, by the Rev. Prebendary Cadman; Dec. 15, by the Rev. Canon Spence; and Dec. 22, by the Rev. Gordon Calthrop. Young men are invited to attend.

At Cardiff on Thursday week Lord Aberdare presented to the Bishop of Llandaff, on behalf of subscribers, a portrait of his Lordship. The painting, which cost £500, was given as a mark of the universal esteem in which the right rev. gentleman is held by the residents in his diocese. His Lordship was appointed to the see of Llandaff in 1849, and he is now the oldest Bishop on the bench.

Miss Chafyn Grove, of Zeals House, Mere, Wilts, the donor of the magnificent organ erected in Salisbury Cathedral, has given £500 towards the cost of the necessary cases for the instrument, the amount of which is estimated at £930. There being a balance in hand of over £164 on the final settlement of the Cathedral Restoration Fund, it is proposed to add this amount to the sum given by Miss Grove and to proceed with the erection of the cases.

St. George's Chapel, in Windsor Castle, which has been undergoing renovation for several years, has been completed so far as the present year is concerned. The work, which has been carried out by the Dean and Chapter, includes the filling of the vacant niches with statues of Royal benefactors, embracing Henry III., Edward III., Edward IV., Henry VI., and Henry VII. The statues have been executed from ancient studies by Messrs. Farmer and Brinsley.

THE MAGAZINES.

"Damocles" and "No New Thing," the *Cornhill's* brace of tales, are both decidedly above the average level of fiction. They exhibit not merely power of composition, but a real insight into life and character. The truth, for instance, with which a thoroughly selfish character is depicted in this month's instalment of "No New Thing" is very remarkable, but, unfortunately, the power of both writers is chiefly shown in delineations of this sort. The effect of their writings is consequently decidedly depressing. "No New Thing" is the more unlovely and prosaic of the two, but "Damocles" has the special disfigurement of a lunatic element in the plot. It is a relief to escape to Mr. Proctor's contemplation of the starry spaces, kindling the imagination with conceptions of surpassing vastness and brilliancy. Even here there is a jarring note in the hypothesis of the gradual diminution of solar energy, which, it is suggested, may compel Royal Institution lecturers in future ages to discourse habited in the skins of white bears. But the prospect is remote, and have we not Dr. Siemens? "The Isle of Portland" is another capital bit of popular science, though we could wish that Mr. Grant Allen felt himself a little lower than infallibility. The second part of "Voltaire in England" is no less interesting than the first. "In 1782" is mainly an abstract of the narrative of a German traveller who visited England in that year, and found everywhere "a healthy, cleanly, well-fed, and well-mannered population," little affected by the disasters of the American War.

Mr. Julian Hawthorne is still a truant from *Macmillan*, but the place of his fiction is not inefficiently supplied by Mrs. Oliphant's "Wizard's Son," the present instalment of which is distinguished by an unexpected turn of fortune. Mr. Matthew Arnold's elegy on a canary is, however, the sensation of the number. If not equal to Lesbia's lament for her sparrow, "Poor Mathias" is a beautiful poem, delicately balanced on the dividing line between pathos and playfulness. Professor Thorold Rogers discourses of "ensilage," or the storing of fodder; the Rev. A. T. Davidson of Simony, or rather of what is incorrectly esteemed such; and Mr. Bradley contributes a finely-written notice of Professor Seeley's "Natural Religion."

The second number of *Longman's Magazine* is not equal to the first. All the contributions are excellent in their way, but, with the exception of the fiction, none are interesting in point of subject. The inventor of the marine chronometer was a most meritorious person, and the question whether meteoric showers have anything to do with exceptional spells of cold weather is a very pretty one to argue, but neither theme has much attraction for the readers of popular magazines. Mr. Froude writes well on Norway, but this subject is exhausted; and Mr. Whiteford has added another to the host baffled by Praed's impregnable charade. "Thicker than Water," however, maintains its high level; and Mrs. Oliphant's "Lady's Walk" displays the power the authoress has so often shown of dealing with the borderland between the natural and the supernatural.

Blackwood opens with an entertaining review of an interesting book, Sir Archibald Alison's autobiography. As an old contributor, Sir Archibald is, of course, dear to "Maga"; it is noticeable, however, that while his career as a magistrate is dwelt upon with eulogy, his literary performances are almost ignored. The present instalment of "The Ladies Lindores" is excellent; and there is great interest and the promise of much more in the first chapters of "A Singular Case," a tale of the rough mining regions of the Far West. "Four Months in Morocco" is a good average magazine paper, and "Notes of an Egyptian Campaigner" something more. The writer of the excellent essay on Goethe's "West-Eastern Divan" has imbibed a full portion of Goethe's wise and catholic spirit. It is truly astonishing to find such a disquisition within the same covers as the stupid Billingsgate with which some Latin poetaster has insulted the memory of Goethe's friend and disciple, Carlyle—rubbish only worth notice as an almost unique example of abuse of an illustrious Scotchman in a Scotch magazine.

The *Nineteenth Century* has several political articles of great importance. One of the most interesting is M. Reinach's appeal to England to show due consideration to French claims in Egypt. To all that he says of the importance of a good understanding between the two nations Englishmen will heartily subscribe; but there could be no surer way of jeopardising this concord than by setting up a partnership which would be the occasion of continual strife. There is no question of annexing Egypt, but the influence of one country or the other must preponderate, and M. Reinach himself admits that, after the exhibition France made of herself last July, it cannot be hers. The article is badly translated by some one who does not know that *Terre Neuve* means Newfoundland. Lord Dunsany shows the necessity of England's keeping a tight hold upon the Suez Canal at all events; and Sir E. Hamley recounts the history of Tel-el-Kebir with the evident purpose of claiming the chief honour of the victory for his division. Arabi's instructions to his counsel have been chiefly anticipated by the newspapers. They contain nothing to justify him from the charge of rebellion against the Khedive, while there is enough to show that he was secretly encouraged by the Sultan, who, he may have thought, had the better claim upon his allegiance. In "Uncle Pat's Cabin," Mr. Baggenal traces the growth of the agitation of the Irish labourers, which may yet revenge the landlords upon the farmers. Mr. Baggenal thinks the movement may be partially checked by the assimilation of the Irish poor law to the English. Mr. Macaulay's criticism on Walt Whitman is refined and appreciative. Cardinal Manning's manifesto on the Education Act is conclusive evidence of the anxiety of the Catholic priesthood to tax the nation for the support of their schools. To attain this desirable end his Eminence gravely suggests that all districts should be rated alike, without reference to their own educational needs, and that the proceeds should be divided among existing schools all over the country, no matter whether the ratepayers think sectarian schools worthy of national support or not. With equal gravity the Cardinal lays it down as an indisputable proposition that instruction in the Bible is not religious instruction.

The *Fortnightly Review* fully maintains its position under Mr. Escott's management. The most noticeable among the contributions are political, including a defence of the existing Conservative leadership, "by two other Conservatives;" a discouraging, yet not despairing, account of the position and prospects of German Liberalism, by Baron de Bunsen; and a severe criticism, not only of M. Gambetta, but of the advanced French Republican party in general, by M. Dietz, the editor of *Le Parlement*. "The Republic," he says, "has most certainly lost a portion of its prestige," and the reason is that, for some years past French policy has been directed by Chambers and Governments who seem to have set it before them as a task to shake and disorganise all the institutions on which a State rests." M. de Laveleye strongly urges England not to withdraw from the civilising mission which Providence has intrusted to her in Egypt. We learn, not with-

out indignation, that there are Englishmen among M. de Laveleye's correspondents who think that within twenty years England will be living under the protection of the United States. Mr. Froude contends that the saving principle of democracy in modern communities is the respect for free labour. It is curious that the school to which Mr. Froude belongs should generally have supported the Confederate cause. The only literary article in the number is a fairly appreciative paper on Dickens, by Mr. Mowbray Morris.

Mr. Westlake, in the *Contemporary Review*, takes nearly the same view of "England's Duty in Egypt" as M. de Laveleye. Mr. C. S. Salmon discusses British policy in another part of Africa, the western coast. He thinks that much might be effected by a cordial understanding with Ashanti and other great native states, and that it is a mistake to thrust European ideals of civilisation upon the natives. Lady Verney's account of the standard of comfort and culture in Auvergne is most disheartening to the advocates of peasant proprietorship. "Vernon Lee's" essay on "Impersonality and Evolution in Music" is eloquent, but highly technical. Miss Christie's criticism on Miss Burney's novels is practical and sensible.

The *Atlantic Monthly* boasts the most illustrious contributor to any of the magazines of the month in virtue of its publication of a posthumous fragment of Nathaniel Hawthorne's, the outline of an intended romance entitled "The Ancestral Footstep," turning on the expedition of a young American to England to investigate a mystery connected with his ancestors. The sketch is full of weird power, and seems in many respects a foreshadowing of "Septimus Felton," for which the author laid it aside. "Hamlet in Paris" records the introduction, the struggle, the triumph, and, we are sorry for our neighbours' sake to add, the decline and fall of Shakespeare's tragedy upon the French stage. "Two on a Tower" and "Studies in the South" are as interesting as usual; and there is a good paper on Persian Dualism. The *Century* has excellent illustrated papers on the Supreme Court of the United States and the art of taxidermy; but the gem of the number is a delicate satire by Mr. Henry James, "The Point of View," a collection of imaginary letters in which Americans and Europeans criticise their respective societies from "points of view" widely dissimilar. *Harper* obliges us with an inner view of the residence of Mr. William Black, whose "Shandon Bells" is the chief literary attraction of the number. There is also a characteristically American story, "The Singular Vote of Aut Tilbo."

Belgravia and *Temple Bar* are almost entirely devoted to fiction. "In an Inn Garden," in the latter, is a very pretty story. The *Gentleman's Magazine* has several good miscellaneous papers, among which Mr. Proctor's account of the preparations for the forthcoming transit of Venus, and Mr. Gordon Cumming's brilliant picture of the volcanoes and the sugar-fields of the Sandwich Islands, are the most interesting. The *Argosy* has some readable tales; the anecdote department of *London Society* is very good; the *Army and Navy Magazine* has a picturesque account of Hyder Ali's campaigns against the British, a useful abstract of the late operations in Afghanistan; and a still more valuable one of the history of French relations with Madagascar. The *Theatre* announces a new series, with several fresh features.

Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin's numerous periodicals include—the Magazine of Art, *Cassell's Family Magazine* (this part, forming the commencement of a new volume, includes various new and characteristic features), *Greater London*, *Picturesque Europe*, *Little Folks*, *Universal History*, *Gleanings from Popular Authors*, *Picturesque America*, *British Ballads*, *Old and New London*, *Old and New Edinburgh*, *Science for All*, *Familiar Wild Flowers*, *Royal Shakspere*, *Leopold Shakspere*, *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, *the Sea*, and *Familiar Wild Birds*.

Other magazines and serial publications received are:—*Art and Letters*, *Men of Mark*, *Competitor*, *Portfolio*, *Army and Navy Magazine*, *United Service Magazine*, *London Society*, *the Squire*, *Across Country*, *St. James's*, *Churchman*, *Aunt Judy's Magazine*, *the Theatre*, *Universal Instructor*, *Pathways of Palestine*, *St. Nicholas*, *Irish Monthly*, *Burlington*, *Science Gossip*, *Argosy*, *the Manchester Quarterly*, *Time*, *the Month*, *Our Little Ones*, *Good Words*, *Leisure Hour*, *Celebrities of the Day*, *Churchman's Shilling Magazine*, *Journal of Forestry*, *Antiquary*, *Bibliographer*, *Fashion Books*—*World of Fashion*, *Le Follet*, *Le Moniteur de la Mode*, *Ladies' Gazette*, *Ladies' Treasury*, *Myra's Journal*, *Myra's Mid-Monthly*; and *Monthly Parts of Chambers's Journal*, *All the Year Round*, *Household Words*, *Boy's Own Paper*, *Girl's Own Paper*, *Union Jack*, *Harper's Young People*, *Knowledge*, *Our Darlings*, *Sunday at Home*, and *Sunday Magazine*.

Christmas Numbers are issued in connection with *Time*, *Tinsley's*, *London Society*, *Gentleman's*, *Belgravia*, *Good Words*, *Quiver*, and *All the Year Round*.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.
The following are lecture arrangements at the Royal Institution for the ensuing season:—

The Christmas lectures will be given by Professor Tyndall, on Light and the Eye.

Before Easter: Professor W. C. Williamson, five lectures on the Primeval Ancestors of Existing Vegetation, and their Bearing upon the Doctrine of Evolution; Professor R. S. Ball, four lectures on the Supreme Discoveries in Astronomy; Professor Dewar, nine lectures on the Spectroscope and its Applications; Mr. R. Bosworth Smith, on Episodes in the Life of Lord Lawrence; Dr. W. H. Stone, three lectures on Singing, Speaking, and Stammering; Mr. H. H. Statham, two lectures on Music as a Form of Artistic Expression.

After Easter courses will be given by Professors Tyndall, McKendrick, A. Geikie, and Turner (of St. Petersburg).

The Friday evening discourses will probably be given by Mr. R. B. Smith, Mr. G. J. Romanes, Sir W. Thomson, Mr. M. D. Conway, Professor W. C. Williamson, Mr. W. H. Pollock, Professor Tyndall, and other gentlemen.

An inquest was held on Monday relative to the death of George Cole, a constable, who was killed by a pistol-shot on Friday night last week, at Dalston. Evidence was given showing that a man was seen to be struggling with him, and ultimately to shoot him. It appears doubtful whether any of the witnesses could positively identify the assailant if he were apprehended, but there seems little doubt that he was a burglar. The jury returned a verdict of wilful murder against some person or persons unknown.

The annual soirée of the Working Men's Club and Institute Union was held on Monday evening at Exeter Hall, Sir Thomas Brassey, M.P., presiding. After a number of prizes for swimming, rowing, and rifle-shooting had been presented by Mrs. Sands to the successful members of the various clubs, Mr. Fishbourne, on behalf of the members of the Union, presented to Mr. Hodgson Pratt a testimonial consisting of a handsome clock and candelabrum in bronze, subscribed for by 15,000 working men in recognition of his patient and unselfish labours. An excellent concert followed the formal business of the evening.



THE ROYAL COURTS OF JUSTICE: THE STRAND FRONT.

WINTER EXHIBITIONS.

THE ROYAL WATER-COLOUR SOCIETY.

To the prefix of Royal, bestowed last year on the Society of Painters in Water-Colours in Pall-mall East, is to be added, as a natural consequence, the grant to the members of a diploma signed by the Queen's hand. The diploma will, we presume, carry with it the legal right to the title of Esquire, and thus no less than thirty-five painters in water-colours will be elevated to the same social rank as the forty painters in oil, sculptors, architects, and engravers, which constitute the Royal Academy of Arts. Unlike the elder institution, which received its honorific baptism in its infancy, the Water-Colour Society has had to wait for its titular distinctions till it had reached almost to an octogenarian age—a period which, broadly speaking, comprises nearly the whole history of the rise and development of water-colour painting in this country. The Royal Academy, however, as its name implies, was founded largely, if not mainly, as a school for instruction in painting. The members of the Royal Society have yet to assume the function of public teachers of the art to which they owe their honours; and this deficiency should certainly, and, we understand, probably will, be shortly supplied. *Noblesse oblige.* Henceforth, too, a larger conception of its public obligation in other respects will be expected from the Royal Society. It should retain nothing of the nature or appearance of an exclusive joint-stock company. It will not be truly representative till it has incorporated the most eminent members of the Institute. Its exhibitions, like those of the Royal Academy, should be available to distinguished outsiders. Indeed, in an art-institution, truly National or Royal (for we hold these terms convertible), the practitioners of *all* the various branches of the fine-arts should be brought into the closest possible association for their common benefit.

The present Winter Exhibition no longer professedly consists simply of studies and sketches—a judicious omission, seeing that the bulk of the works exhibited at this season in recent years, as now, have been more or less finished drawings. The contributors bear their honours modestly, even meekly. There is scarcely a single instance of exceptional effort, although, as usual, the level of merit is respectable.

Among the few "features" of the display are about two dozen sketches from nature by the late Mr. E. Duncan, which show some of the purest and truest work here, while the subjects are more varied than might be expected. By the eminent German painter Adolph Menzel (lately elected an honorary member) there are two small studies, the one, entitled "Suspicion" (363), of a man looking inquiringly with his hand on his sword-hilt, under effect of partial lighting; the other (28), of part of the interior of the town church at Innspruck, with a preacher holding forth from the ornately-carved pulpit, and the nearest portion of the congregation, the effect being again that of partial lighting from the high windows. The shadows are more opaquely black than they would be were Adolph Menzel a fine colourist; but for strength of facial characterisation, and mastery of modelling, descriptiveness, and precision of touch and for general pictorial completeness, they are marvellous. Nearly all other figure draughtsmanship here appears amateur-like by comparison, and suggests a doubt whether the training in essentials of the ordinary English painter in water-colours is sufficiently thorough. Turn, for instance, to Mr. R. Barnes's "Girlish Trouble" (147)—one of the most elaborate of the English figure drawings, and which, although the girl's face is somewhat distorted, contains a well modelled head of a sympathising old mother—and we find that the attention given, equally to the pleats of the dress and pattern of the screen, as to the heads, seems to show that the artist has only arrived at a point of careful unguided studentship, and has yet to acquire the power of selective, emphatic representation that comes with greater command of the technical means of expression, and knowledge of the principles of art. The observation might be applied to a large proportion of both the landscape and figure works in this display. An educated sense of pictorial requirements should not be absent even from studies and sketches. In short, a school, as we have recommended, and all that it implies, is imperatively demanded for English water-colour art, if it is to hold its own now that the more highly-trained foreign painters are competing in the same medium.

At the head of the room is a landscape entitled "Sunshine," by Mr. Thorne Waite, with girls haymaking, and a stretch of distance which, if somewhat prosaic, has the qualities of breadth and clearness of tone which we have often admired in this painter's works. In the post of honour, *vis-à-vis*, is a rather large sketch, by Princess Louise, of a man standing to propel and guide his canoe among currents, shallows, and obstructions on the Cascapedia river, Canada. It is a frank, rapid sketch, and the difficulty of rendering the poise of the man is surmounted in a way highly creditable. C. Gregory and S. J. Hodson, newly-elected Associates, promise well. By the former, the quaint bit of "An English Town" (107) and the little girl, in No. 124, seated near cottages, telling a story to her younger sister, are glowing in colour, and show the artist equally at home in figures and landscape. A drawing by the latter of a little fellow indulging in "A Boy's Day-Dream" (90), as he gazes at the portrait of his grandfather in an antique chamber, is also rich in colour. Other Associates of recent standing are fairly represented—to wit, J. D. Watson, in "The Last Chance for a Christmas Dinner" (279)—Georgian soldiers on a foraging expedition foiled in their chase through the snow of a goose (the oil version of which appeared in the Exhibition of Fine and Decorative Art, in Bond-street); R. Beavis, in several Spanish subjects, of which the "Entrance to the Harbour of Coruña" (144) is, perhaps, the most important; W. Pilsbury, in "A Dorsetshire Village" (272), and other drawings charmingly delicate and complete; T. J. Watson, in studies of trees; H. M. Marshall, in street scenes, views on the Orwell, and more particularly in the "Mill-Stream, Sonning" (141), with effect of rosette clouds after storm—all marked by freshness of impression free from conventionality; W. M. Hale, in "Bolton Abbey" (24); E. F. Brewtnall, in "Driving Home the Flock" (57); J. Parker, in "Idle Chatter" (44); Norman Taylor, in "Windfalls" (259); E. Eyre Walker, A. Hopkins, E. Buckman, E. A. Waterlow, and Mrs. Angell—whose studies of flowers and fruit are distinguished by her customary spirit and fidelity. Mrs. Allingham has some very pretty little drawings, as usual, revealing the influence of Frederick Walker. Miss Clara Montalba sends studies on the Thames artistic in quality of colour if somewhat monotonous. O. W. Brierly, in "A Grey Morning at Venice" (12), gains by contact with nature, though our obligations to him for his memorials of the naval glories of the Elizabethan era must not be forgotten. H. Wallis's view in the Alhambra (389); H. Moore's "Fowey Evening" (241), and E. K. Johnson's fortune-telling scene (205) are likewise entitled to mention.

Among the few painters in this society who evince poetical conception Albert Goodwin is decidedly the most original. His "Valley of the Sea"—the Red Sea divided for the Israelites to pass over (195)—has really fine passages of daring invention, and should be carried out on a larger scale. More

intelligible, and therefore more generally acceptable, are "The Return of the Mariners" (334) and "Sunset in the Valley of the Simpion" (7). Alfred Hunt, besides Turner-esque studies of his favourite Durham, has, in a view of "Warkworth Castle from the Sands" (101), a striking and well-observed effect of sunbeams veiling a bank of cloud from the edge of which they descend. Poetical feeling is also displayed in H. Clarence Whaite's "Seed for the Sower" (158); but the mannerism of the execution hardly assimilates with the feeling, or vice versa.

Of most of the best-known members—pillars indeed, still, of the society—there is scarcely anything new to record. The President, Sir John Gilbert, however, breaks new ground in an illustration of "Roderick Random," "Miss Jenny snaps her fingers at Captain Weazel" (178); but the result is not altogether fortunate. S. Read's contributions are even more varied than usual, comprising as they do Scotch, German, Italian, and English subjects, besides an able drawing of "Toledo Cathedral" (123), looking towards the great grille of the choir, into which an ecclesiastical procession is entering. Carl Haag's Bedawee Sheikhs are as potent in colour and powerful in execution as ever; F. Tayler's hunting and other subjects are as facile and felicitous; Birket Foster's rustics and their surroundings as vivacious and natty; Brittan Willis's cattle-pieces as velvet soft and rich; and quite up to their customary level are Messrs. Boyce, Richardson, S. P. Jackson, Dobson, E. A. Goodall, Naftel, Andrews, Glennie, C. David-son, and W. Callow.

SOCIETY OF BRITISH ARTISTS.

The present exhibition in the spacious galleries at Suffolk-street shows continued improvement, and is decidedly the best display we have seen there at this season. New blood is being fast infused into this not long since moribund body; and the benefit that must accrue will be apparent when we say that recent accessions include Messrs. Marsh, J. D. Watson, T. J. Watson, and Brewtnall, of the Royal Water-Colour Society (but here represented in oil), and Messrs. F. Barnard, W. C. Symons, L. C. Henley, and J. Scott—to which we believe we may add the name (though it does not yet appear in the catalogue) of R. Caton Woodville, the painter of military subjects, and to whom this Journal is indebted for many spirited illustrations.

The first-named—Arthur T. Marsh—contributes "The Lass that Loves a Sailor" (267), a sturdy Northumbrian fisher-girl, heavily laden with nets, gazing with true-hearted steadfastness over the darkling North Sea, as the light wanes westward. This is a piece of genuine art, alike in sentiment, as distinguished from mere sentimentality, and in technique: the colouring and execution being duly subordinated to express the, so to speak, subjective effect of twilight. J. D. Watson sends two small landscape bits with figures, artistic in feeling; and his brother, Thomas J., "A Surrey Lane" (335), which could be unreservedly commended but for a besetting heaviness of tone. Mr. Brewtnall shows, as usual, nice perception of harmonious colouring in three contributions. F. Barnard has an itinerant knife-grinder (85), which recalls those more elaborate studies of London street life which first brought him prominently before the public. Although cleverly painted, we like less "An Unequal Match" (355), a young and pretty girl fainting over a wash-tub, derided by two older and tougher washerwomen. Objection need not be raised to subjects, à la Dickens, drawn from common life; but the treatment here is neither purely humorous nor pathetic; and there is a tendency to caricature against which the artist may be cautioned. W. L. Symons evinces uncommon command of the resources of the palette, and his handling is brilliant and direct—qualities which fit him to treat with unusual success a semi-decorative theme, such as "The Bathers" (586); but where these qualities appear in a more dramatic though romantic subject, such as that (187) of the knight dying in the arms of the "lady of the land," they are apt to convey a rather theatrical and conventional impression. Still we regard Mr. Symons as one of the most promising of our younger painters. L. C. Henley's sympathies are drawn to monastic life; and his larger picture of a young monk "Called to Account" (603) before his father superior tells its suggestive story well. But the painter's careful execution and just discrimination of light and shade are better seen in the small picture (54) of a young monk beneath a window immersed in one of the many folios of the monastery library. J. Scott's "Interesting Story" (343) is bright, neat, and pleasant.

It is not, however, to these newest members that the exhibition owes all, or nearly all, its fresher interest. More vigour and robustness have been brought into the society, and manifestations of youthful daring have been made by a group of members of rather longer but still recent standing who have been influenced by the Scotch or the French *impressioniste* schools. Perhaps we should say that the former school owes some of its characteristics to the latter, for certain French (and analogous Dutch) painters are probably better known north of the Tweed than in England. Of the Scotch painters, John Reid seems to be a leader in this new departure; and is closely followed by J. White—see his "Little Footprints" (273)—and others. In "The Plagues of the Village" (230), by Mr. Reid ("the plagues" being mischievous apple-stealing boys), the colouring and the effect of sunlight and shade in the village street are rendered with the utmost force that loaded paint can yield, but with little attention to modelling or detail. Similar remarks apply to the marine and landscape pieces by the English painter Edwin Ellis, only there is less attention to chiaroscuro: the colours *per se* are laid on in their fullest brightness or depth; consequently the painter's contrasts are violent; still it must be owned that, with more reserve and a closer study of relative hues and tones, there is the making of a fine colourist in him. Two of his most characteristic examples are "Penberth Cove" (136) and "St. Ives' Pier" (554). Yeend King's contributions show a more direct French influence, but he has not perfectly assimilated recent study in France. All these works are in the nature of sketches; yet, as such, they do not attain the truth of relative hues, or of the local *toche*, as the French say, which is the great redeeming merit of the foreign *impressionistes*. In this respect Miss Flora M. Reid's "Pilchard Preserving, Cornwall" (597) is more successful. Other phases of French or Dutch art appear to be reflected in F. Brown's small picture (529) of an old cottager and his wife seated at their humble repast of bread and bacon, which is as true to peasant character as Bastien Lepage; and in some small pictures by W. A. Brakespeare. A. G. Glindoni's "Student" (62), à la Meissonier; A. Ludovici's female head (59), tender and harmonious in colour, and his picture of a Patlander showing the tomb of his Kings to Saxon tourists (323); "A Rehearsal" (220), by A. Ludovici, jun., which is a great advance in composition, tone, and general completeness upon anything we have seen by this artist; "A Study" (444), by S. A. Forbes; H. Caffieri's landscapes, with their pleasant grey harmony of colour; and Frank Dickey's "Rose in June" (409), a female bust refined in feeling—all seem to evince foreign influence, not, certainly, to their detriment.

Of the English works of merit and promise—marked by love of nature animate and inanimate, and frank enjoyment of colour—not yet noticed we have to commend R. J. Gordon's "Lady Teazle" (331), H. H. Cauty's "Between Two Stools" (150), an incident in an old-fashioned garden, pleasantly conceived, but rather overdone in colour and effect; J. E. Grace's "Woodland Pool" (192), refined, as usual, but in which the artist almost repeats himself; fresh and agreeable landscapes by Stuart Lloyd, "By the River's Side" (516); a pleasant landscape with a pretty figure, by A. Glindoni, jun., and microscopic little studies by the Misses Hayllar. Of more marked idiosyncrasies are the numerous subjects of H. Helmick, which contain some admirable studies of characteristic heads; and the "Habet" (182) of W. Dendy Sadler—a couple of astute-looking ecclesiastics engaged in a game of chess: they are pretty equally matched, for the uncaptured pieces are very few; but the elder wins—"habet" he exclaims, as with a smile he gives checkmate. The Scotch painter Alexander Burr (his brother John, the president of the society, sending nothing) has a cottage incident (224), with some well-modelled heads, but rather artificial in lighting. A few of the elder best-known members not yet named maintain their ground of vantage. "Granny's Story" (196), by Haynes King, is the best picture we remember to have seen from his hand; the cool colouring is particularly happy. J. Hayllar's studies of rustic heads are very life-like, and preferable, we think, to his larger love-making scene (512), which is really too cleanly and smoothly painted. Mr. Gosling has a large landscape (539) with figures passing in procession to a Christening, cleverly introduced by Mr. Woodville. Messrs. George Cole and J. Peel send landscapes of customary mark, and Messrs. Cobbett and Woolmer, historic names almost in connection with this society, contribute according to their wont.

The water-colour room shares in the general improvement of the exhibition, but we have only space to mention the following:—"A Straw-plaister" (638), by Mrs. George Clausen; "The Mountain-Side, near Barmouth Junction, North Wales" (653), one of four remarkable drawings by Bernard Evans, which seem to take as much liberty with local fact as Turner himself did, but which only want less mannered monotony, and more aerial perspective in their sweep of line and plane, to rise from dubiously grandiose into truly grand expression; "Reward for Distinguished Services" (sketch for a picture) (682), by Lionel Smythe; and No. 778, by the same; "Returning from the Hunt" (705), by R. Huttula; "At Thebes (Past and Present)" (731), by Carl Haag, and drawings by J. M. Macintosh, Albert Stevens, and S. G. W. Roscoe.

The promised exhibition at the Grosvenor Gallery of the collective works of Mr. Alma Tadema and of the late Mr. Cecil Lawson is now open; but we regret to say that we must postpone our notice of the exhibition till next week.

The exhibition at Bradford, opened by the Prince of Wales in aid of the new technical school, has concluded, after a great success, resulting in a balance of upwards of £12,000.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works yesterday week it was stated that it did not recognise any fire brigade but that maintained by the board.

It has been decided to commence the proposed cathedral for the Archdiocese of Westminster early in spring. The site is in the Vauxhall Bridge-road, adjoining the Archbishop's house. The cathedral is to be in the early Gothic style, and will, it is said, cost upwards of £250,000.

The inquest upon the bodies of the forty men who met their deaths in the explosion in the Clay-cross Colliery concluded yesterday week. The jury exonerated the company and its officials, but recommended the use of safety-lamps, and that the night deputy should examine the workings just before the men entered the pit.

Mr. Dodson yesterday week received a deputation interested in the subject of pauper schools, which pressed upon the Government the importance of a more extended adoption of the boarding-out system. Mr. Dodson replied that the system was under his consideration, with a view to see how far it may be stimulated and extended.

The Corporation of London has acquired, at a cost of £7000, the manorial and other rights over about three hundred and forty-seven acres of common land in the neighbourhood of Croydon and Caterham, known as Coulsden, Kenley, Riddlesdown, and Farthingdown. They are all within easy access of the metropolis, and are open and breezy spaces, commanding extensive and picturesque views.

A proposal to construct a large tidal basin in connection with the harbour at Great Yarmouth, at an expense of £45,000, was considered by the Town Council yesterday week, and, after a very lively debate, was rejected by a large majority, though it was agreed that more accommodation for fishing-vessels is urgently required at this port.

The judgment of the Court-martial on the loss of her Majesty's ship *Phoenix* was delivered yesterday week. The Court found that the stranding of the ship was due to negligent navigation. Commander Grenfell and Lieutenant Hill were dismissed from the ship, Gunner Merritt was reprimanded, and the rest of the officers and crew of the *Phoenix* were acquitted.

Mr. W. E. Forster yesterday week distributed the prizes to the successful competitors in the Bradford School of Technical Education. Subsequently he gave an address, in the course of which he pointed out the means by which foreign workmen were able to compete with English artificers in their own particular trades. He believed that work would be better done by voluntary effort than by the imposition of taxes or rates.

A deputation from the British and Foreign Bible Society waited yesterday week on the Ambassadors from the Queen of Madagascar. They showed the Ambassadors copies of the new Malagasy Bible now sold by the Society in Madagascar for 1s., of which 20,000 copies have been sold, a new edition of 15,000 being now in the press. A copy of the old edition, which during the thirty years' persecution had been buried, was also shown them. The first Ambassador expressed the gratitude of his country for all the Bible Society had done for it, and the Ambassadors undertook to pay a visit to the Bible house as soon as business permitted them to do so.

POSTAGE FOR FOREIGN PARTS THIS WEEK,

DECEMBER 9, 1882.

The publication of the Thin Paper Edition of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS being for the present week suspended, subscribers will please to notice that copies of this Number forwarded abroad must be prepaid according to the following rates:—*Two pence* to Africa (West Coast of), Alexandria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cape of Good Hope, China (via United States), Constantinople, Denmark, France, Germany, Gibraltar, Greece, Holland, Italy, Jamaica, Mauritius, New Zealand, Norway, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, United States of America; and *Three pence* to China (via Brindisi) and India.

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